



Series: Research / General (R1)
Number: R 1-03

Effective Date: 2022-05-03
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Policy Title: Biosafety and Biosecurity

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| Parent Policy | R 1-05 Integrity in Research and Scholarship |
| Policy Administrator | Associate Provost, Research & Graduate Studies |
| Approving Body | Senate |
| Approval History | 2022-05-03; Senate Motion #2021/22 – 028 2014-04-29; Senate Motion #2013/14 – 045 |

Purpose:

The objectives of this policy are to:

- Prevent employees, students, and their families from acquiring facility-associated infectious diseases
- Prevent contamination of the environment and promote environmental quality
- Prevent residents of surrounding communities from acquiring facility-associated infectious diseases
- Comply with local, provincial, and federal regulations that address the use, handling, storage, transfer, and disposal of biohazardous materials

Scope of this Policy:

This policy applies to all research, teaching and testing involving biohazardous material that is undertaken under the auspices of TWU and/or using the resources of TWU. Where the TWU Biosafety Committee grants "in principle" approval for research involving biohazards at another institution, a copy of that institution's permit, for the research, must be filed at TWU

Policy Statement:

All research and teaching at Trinity Western University that involve biohazardous materials must have a TWU faculty member (or acceptable equivalent as defined in other TWU policies) in charge and must have obtained a permit from the Biosafety Committee. All faculty, staff, and students working with biohazardous material must receive appropriate training in biosafety and biosecurity.

- i. The TWU Biosafety Committee ensures that researchers use appropriate containment facilities for the proposed research involving biohazardous materials.
- ii. All research and teaching involving the use of biohazardous materials require the prior approval of the TWU Biosafety Committee. The detailed responsibilities and powers of the TWU Biosafety Committee are those set out in its Terms of Reference and its Procedures. These are published and may be modified from time to time under the authority of the Associate Provost Research & Graduate Studies.

- iii. The Biosafety Committee reports to the Associate Provost Research who has responsibility for TWU activities with respect to Biosafety and Biosecurity matters.

The Associate Provost, Research & Graduate Studies will appoint a Biosafety Officer (BSO), who will be the person responsible for day to day operation of the Biosafety Program. The BSO will work closely with the Chair of the Biosafety Committee in license applications and the development of written procedures for operations (Standard Operating Procedures).

Definitions:

See Trinity Western University Biosafety and Biosecurity Committee Policy, Terms of Reference and Procedures for additional definitions and procedures.

Biohazardous materials are defined as infectious agents or hazardous biological materials that present a risk or potential risk to the health of humans, animals, and the environment. These include known pathogens and infectious agents such as, prions, bacteria and their plasmids and phages, viruses, fungi, parasites, cell lines, animal remains and laboratory animals (including insects) that might harbor such infectious agents, primate body fluids, and plant materials. Also included are nucleic acids used in procedures such as recombinant DNA and genetic manipulations.

Procedures: None

Child Policies: None

Other Related Policies: R 1-11 Visiting Scholars