

To: Clemson University Administrators, Faculty, Staff and Students

From: James F. Barker, FAIA

Date: October 7, 2008

Re: Institution-wide Compliance with Federal Regulations and Institutional Policies in the Conduct of Research and Teaching

Clemson University has made a commitment to promote the highest standards for research and teaching. As we collectively strive to be one of the nation's top 20 public universities, we must not forget our ethical and legal obligations. Rigorous compliance with all Federal, State, and University requirements related to the conduct of research and teaching activities is necessary to sustain and promote our efforts.

It is my strong expectation, and it is likewise the expectation of the Board of Trustees, that all persons involved in research and teaching at Clemson University (including institutional officials, directors and deans, principal investigators, faculty, staff, and students) clearly understand and meet their responsibilities when engaged in research and teaching activities.

Universities, as partners in the national research enterprise, are required by federal and state regulations to establish specific research committees to ensure the safety and welfare of research subjects, those conducting research, and others who work or study within the research environment. Accordingly, committees have been established at Clemson University to oversee these particular research areas: animal subjects, human subjects, recombinant DNA, biohazards and hazardous chemicals. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), the Institutional Review Board (IRB), and the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) are administered by the Clemson University Office of Research Compliance.

Failure to obtain the required approval prior to the initiation of teaching or research activities or procurement of animals, and failure to conduct research and teaching activities in accord with the approved protocol may subject both the University and the individual to penalties including fines, debarment from federal programs and even imprisonment.

We, as a University community, share the responsibility of ethical conduct and furthering Clemson University's goals. Please take this opportunity to reacquaint yourself with the compliance policies that apply to your activities. The Office of Research Compliance stands by ready to assist you. You can reach the office at 656-1525 or by visiting 223 Brackett Hall.