

## **Policy Title: Biosafety and Biosecurity Policy**

**Parent Policy:** Integrity in Research and Scholarship Policy

**Policy Administrator:** Vice Provost Research and Graduate Studies

**Approving Body:** University Senate

**Date Policy Approved:** April 29, 2014; 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 projects 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 of the project, 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 proposals involving the use of biohazardous materials in research and teaching 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 Vice-Provost, Research and Graduate Studies.
- iii. The Biosafety Committee reports to the Vice Provost, Research and Graduate Studies who has responsibility for TWU activities with respect to Biosafety and Biosecurity matters.
- iv. The Vice Provost 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 definitions and procedures.

**Child Policies:**

**Monitoring Data:** Vice Provost Research and Graduate Studies to supply annual report each fall to RAS indicating the number and type of Biosafety licenses that have been given in the past year, as well as the incidence of breaches, if any.