TO: Deans, Department Chairs, Directors, Faculty, and Administrators

FROM: Dr. Cary Cooper – Interim Executive Vice President and Provost

SUBJECT: U.S. Export Laws and UTMB’s Openness in Research Policy

DATE: August 1, 2012

UTMB is committed to excellence in health sciences education, research and patient care. As part of its research endeavor, UTMB is a leader in developing countermeasures against infectious diseases through research collaborations with scientists and universities throughout the world. For reasons of national security, the export of certain technologies, research results, software and biological and chemical materials to foreign destinations or parties is regulated and controlled by federal export control laws. Accordingly, UTMB employees must comply with export control laws. In 2011, UTMB formed the Export Control Compliance Committee to ensure that UTMB’s research is in compliance with the export control laws and regulations.

As a leader in medical research, UTMB embraces an open teaching and research environment, which is fundamental to the free exchange of ideas throughout the UTMB research community and its global research partners. UTMB’s researchers are free to publish and share their research findings with the scientific community. Importantly, publicly available information and research results arising from fundamental research are generally excluded from export control law review.

In pursuing a policy of research openness, UTMB refrains from research that imposes restrictions upon the sharing of data with the research community. However, there may be exceptionally rare circumstances, where UTMB could recognize that the best interests of society and research will weigh against broad participation in research and open exchange of information. In such cases, UTMB’s Empowered Officials for export control matters may grant limited exceptions to this policy.

More information and resources about export control can be found at www.utmb.export.edu or from Frances Streeter, JD - Legal Officer and Export Control Officer, Office of Technology Transfer at 409-772-0376 or frstreet@utmb.edu. Should you have any questions about export control issues or whether research is subject to export control, please contact Ms. Streeter.