

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE REVISIONS TO POLICY 13015 OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF RESEARCH DATA, RESULTS AND RELATED MATERIALS**

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Tech is committed to supporting a robust research enterprise that advances scholarship in all disciplines; and

**WHEREAS**, to achieve and maintain excellence in all research endeavors the university delineates the roles and responsibilities for the stewardship, sharing, and administration of research data, results, and related materials; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Tech complies with the laws, regulations, contractual agreements and other expectations of all federal, state, private and public sponsors of university research; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Tech is committed to protecting the rights and responsibilities of researchers, research partners, and the university; and

**WHEREAS**, all parties to research efforts benefit from clarity on the ownership and proper management of data generated under the auspices of the university; and

**WHEREAS**, as the owner and steward of data, results and related materials generated under the auspices of the university, Virginia Tech promulgates policies and procedures to support the university's research activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed revisions to policy 13015, "Ownership and Control of Research Results," clarify the role of the university and the principal investigator in the ownership, stewardship, sharing, and administration of research data, results, and related materials

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that policy 13015 be approved with all revisions;

**AND, BE IT FURTHER RESLOVED**, that the appropriate electronic and printed university documents including handbooks, catalogs, and websites be revised to reflect the approved policy.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Visitors approve the resolution and revisions to Policy 13015 Ownership and Control of Research Data, Results, and Related Materials.

June 8, 2021



## Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

# Ownership and Control of Research Data, Results, and Related Materials

## No. 13015

**Policy Effective Date:**  
2/7/1994

**Last Revision Date:**  
6/8/2021

**Policy Owner:**  
Daniel Sui

**Policy Author:** (*Contact Person*)  
Laurel Miner

**Affected Parties:**  
Undergraduate  
Graduate  
Faculty  
Staff  
Other

1.0 Purpose  
2.0 Policy  
3.0 Procedures  
4.0 Definitions  
5.0 References  
6.0 Approval and Revisions

## 1.0 Purpose

This policy asserts the university's ownership, stewardship, sharing, and administration of research data, results, and related materials.

## 2.0 Policy

Virginia Tech owns research data, results, and related materials for all projects conducted under the auspices of the university or supported wholly or in part with university resources. This policy defines "research data," assigns roles and responsibilities to key actors, and describes its relationship to other relevant university policies.

While Virginia Tech owns research data, results, and related materials, the university works in partnership with Principal Investigators (PIs) to fulfill stewardship, sharing, and administration obligations.

All members of the university community are expected to foster and uphold the principles in Virginia Tech's Statement of Professional Ethics and Responsibilities (see the [Faculty Handbook](#), as well as the [Graduate School Policies section of the Graduate Catalog](#)).

Issues relating to the misinterpretation, incorrect application, or violation of these policies shall be resolved through the appropriate university grievance procedure (see the [Faculty Handbook](#), as well as the [Graduate School Policies section of the Graduate Catalog](#)).

## 2.1 Intellectual Properties

The university's ownership of intellectual properties (IP) and the required disclosure of the creation of IP to the university is described in Policy 13000 "Policy on Intellectual Properties." The university's IP ownership rights extend to all permanent and visiting faculty, research faculty, classified staff, wage employees, and students.

Nothing in this policy (13015) shall supersede or contradict any portion of the policy on Intellectual Properties (IP) (13000). To the extent that any research data, as defined below, also qualifies as any defined term in the IP Policy (including without limitation "Supported Invention," "Incidental Invention," "Unpatented Materials," "Sponsored Computer Software," or "Sponsored Computer Invention") all terms of the IP Policy shall apply.

## 2.2 Research Data Stewardship and Appropriate Sharing and Access

Principal Investigator. Principal investigators (PIs) and research group members are stewards and custodians of research data; if PIs choose to delegate responsibility within their research groups, the PIs are accountable to the university for the stewardship and proper sharing of research data, results, and related materials. These responsibilities are shared with the university by the PI and research team members who generate, acquire, and work with the research data.



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Consistent with the university's overarching goals of creation and dissemination of knowledge, it is important that research data be shared and distributed openly. PIs and project leaders are encouraged to share their data openly where appropriate. There are legitimate and compelling reasons, however, why data must be kept confidential. For example, data must remain confidential when their release would reveal proprietary ideas and techniques of researchers and their partners, or when they include private information concerning individual research subjects.

Research data may be made available to members of the Virginia Tech community and/or to research collaborators at other institutions, as appropriate, within the discretion of the PI, and subject to the terms of any applicable data use/transfer agreement (DTA/DUA), or other governing agreement, that outlines the security and confidentiality requirements and other terms of any sponsored agreement or human-subjects protection requirements.

University Access. Should it be necessary for the university to secure access to research data, results, or related materials (e.g., during a research misconduct proceeding) an appointed official may take custody of research data, results, and related materials in the manner described in the relevant research integrity policy or as directed by the Office of the Vice President for Research.

### **2.3 University Responsibilities and Stewardship of Data, Results, and Related Materials**

The university determines the rights, responsibilities, and principles that govern the administration of research data, results, and related materials. The university's rights and obligations are not subject to negotiation and may not be altered in any agreement or proposal prepared by any faculty member or administrator.

The university is responsible for stewardship and administration of the research data, results, and related materials in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations and any contractual requirements when funded by or collaborating with public and private organizations.

These responsibilities are shared with the PI and research team members who generate, acquire, and work with the research data.

Virginia Tech's responsibilities with respect to research data include, but are not limited to:

- a. Ensuring compliance with the terms of research agreements;
- b. Protecting the rights of researchers, including, but not limited to, their rights to access data resulting from research that they conducted;
- c. Securing intellectual property rights;
- d. Facilitating the investigation of concerns related to research misconduct or financial conflicts of interest;
- e. Providing guidance for implementing the appropriate confidentiality and security protections of research data;
- f. Providing guidance for compliance with funder and publications requirements regarding data sharing and availability; and
- g. Complying with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

The PI or project leader (including the chairs of student thesis or dissertation committee) is expected to manage the university's ownership of research results and material (including all data) in ways that best advance the standard routes of publication, presentations, and other usual means of dissemination of research findings.



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### 2.4 Responsibilities of the Principal Investigator (PI)

The PI's responsibilities with respect to research data include, but are not limited to:

- a. Ensuring proper management and retention of research data, results, and related materials in accordance with this policy and the university [Records Retention Schedule](#);
- b. Establishing and maintaining appropriate procedures for the [protection of research data](#) and other essential records, particularly for long-term research projects;
- c. Ensuring [compliance](#) and the appropriate use of animals, human subjects, and biological materials;
- d. Maintaining confidentiality of research data, where indicated;
- e. Maintaining data use agreements for the sharing of research data, where indicated;
- f. Establishing access levels for research data in compliance with the conditions of funding and [IRB](#) requirements, where applicable; and
- g. Complying with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Departure of PI or researcher. If a PI leaves Virginia Tech and a mutually agreed upon decision is made to move the project to another institution, ownership of the original data may be transferred to the PI's new institution. Data transfer is subject to written agreement from the PI's new institution that guarantees its acceptance of ongoing custodial responsibilities for the data and acknowledges that Virginia Tech retains access to the original data, should such access become necessary for any reason; and relevant confidentiality restrictions, where appropriate.

When individuals, other than PIs, who have been substantively involved in research projects leave the university the ownership of the research data remains with the university and original data must be retained at Virginia Tech by the PI. The departing researcher may take with them copies of research data resulting from these projects, subject to relevant confidentiality restrictions, any requirements of the original research project, and conditioned upon the approval of the individual's department head in collaboration with [Scholarly Integrity and Research Compliance \(SIRC\)](#) and the [Office of Sponsored Projects \(OSP\)](#).

Members of a research team remaining at Virginia Tech retain the rights to use the original data. Any publications resulting from the data will be subject to Virginia Tech authorship guidelines and the specific requirements of the journal in which publication occurs.

### 2.5 Graduate Student Research Data, Results, Related Materials

The Graduate School may, with the agreement of department heads, major professor(s), and students involved, embargo a thesis or dissertation up to one year after successful completion (see [Graduate School Policies section of the Graduate Catalog](#)).

## 3.0 Procedures

## 4.0 Definitions

**Research Data Results and Related Materials** are defined as recorded, tangible, or intangible research information, regardless of form or the media on which it is recorded, that are created or collected in the process of performing research, whether supported in whole or in part by university resources or by external funders. Research data, results and related materials include, but are not limited to, computer software (computer programs, computer databases, and documentation thereof), materials such as unmodified and modified biological specimens, new or



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modified chemical entities, laboratory notebooks, notes of any type, materials submitted to and/or approved by IRB, IACUC, IBC or other research oversight committees (e.g., applications, outreach/advertising materials, consent forms, survey routines/questionnaires and debriefing scripts), photographs, films, audio recordings, digital images, original or modified biological and environmental samples, gels, spectra, cell lines, reagents, protocols, algorithms, graphs, charts, numerical raw experimental results, instrumental outputs, other deliverables under sponsored agreements; intangible data such as statistics, findings, conclusions, other deliverables under sponsored agreement; and any other records of, or in any form that could be used for, reconstruction and evaluation of reported or otherwise published results of research.

### 5.0 References

1. Code of Virginia Chapter 7, "[The Virginia Public Records Act](#)"
2. [Policy 2000](#), "Management of University Records"
3. [Policy 13000](#), "Policy on Intellectual Property"
4. [Graduate Catalog](#)
5. [Faculty Handbook](#)
6. [Office of Sponsored Projects \(OSP\)](#).
7. [Scholarly Integrity and Research Compliance \(SIRC\)](#)
8. [Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties \(VTIP\)](#)

### 6.0 Approval and Revisions

Recommended by the Commission on Research.  
 Approved by University Council: February 7, 1994.  
 Approved by the President: February 7, 1994.

Annual review October 3, 2001 by the Vice Provost for Research, Leonard K. Peters. No revisions.

- Revision 1  
 This policy dated back to 2001 and made no reference to the possibility of digital files or notebooks. Language has been added referring to digital data. Data management plans are now commonly required by sponsors and revisions have been made to clarify the expectations for faculty members for research conducted here at the university.

Approved by the Commission on Research on April 20, 2015  
 Approved by University Council on May 4, 2015  
 Approved by the Board of Visitors on June 1, 2015  
 Approved June 30, 2015 by University President, Timothy D. Sands



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- Revision 2

The policy was updated to define Research Data and Materials, address the need for research data security and to provide additional guidance on the specific responsibilities of Virginia Tech and the Principal Investigator.

Approved by the Commission on Research on

Approved by University Council on

Approved by the Board of Visitors on

Approved by University President, Timothy D. Sands



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**Ownership and Control of Research Results**  
**Ownership and Control of Research Data, Results, and Related Materials**



## Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

## No. 13015

Policy Effective Date:  
2/7/1994

Last Revision Date:  
6/30/2015

Policy Owner:  
Theresa Mayer TBD

Policy Author: (Contact  
Person)  
Laurel Miner

Affected Parties:  
Undergraduate  
Graduate  
Faculty  
Staff  
Other

1.0 Purpose  
2.0 Policy  
3.0 Procedures  
4.0 Definitions  
5.0 References  
6.0 Approval and  
Revisions

## 1.0 Purpose

This policy ~~is to protect the rights of the~~ asserts the university's ~~in regard to~~ ownership, ~~stewardship, sharing, and administration and retention~~ of research data, results, and related materials.

## 2.0 Policy

~~The university~~ Virginia Tech owns ~~asserts ownership over research~~ research data, results, and related materials for all projects conducted under the auspices of the university or supported wholly or in part with university resources, ~~conducted at the University, under the auspices of the University, or with University resources.~~ This policy defines "research data," assigns roles and responsibilities to key actors, and describes its ~~relationship to other relevant university policies.~~

While Virginia Tech owns research data, results, and related materials, the university works in partnership with Principal Investigators (PIs) to fulfill stewardship, sharing, and administration obligations.

All members of the university community are expected to foster and uphold the principles set forth in the university's in Virginia Tech's Statement of Professional Ethics and Responsibilities (see the Faculty Handbook, as well as the Graduate School Policies section of the Graduate Catalog).

Issues relating to the misinterpretation, incorrect application, or violation of these policies shall be resolved through the appropriate university grievance procedure (see the Faculty Handbook, as well as the Graduate School Policies section of the Graduate Catalog).

## 2.1 Intellectual Properties

~~In addition,~~ The university's ownership of intellectual properties (IP) and the required disclosure of the creation of IP to the university is described in Policy 13000 "Policy on Intellectual Properties," ~~university ownership of intellectual properties is covered in Policy 13000, "Policy on Intellectual Properties."~~ These university's IP ownership rights extend to all permanent and visiting faculty, research faculty, classified staff, wage employees, and students.

Nothing in this policy (13015) shall ~~supersede~~ supersede or contradict any portion of the policy on Intellectual Properties (IP) (13000). ~~University Statement of Policy in Regard to Intellectual Property (the "IP Policy").~~ To the extent that any research data, as defined below, also qualifies as any defined term in the IP Policy (including without limitation "Supported Invention," "Incidental Invention," "Unpatented Materials," "Sponsored

**Commented [MP1]:** A review of university policies on the ownership of research data was conducted. The university policies that contributed to the revisions included: Harvard: Research Data Ownership Policy; Yale: Research Data and Materials Policy; University of Washington: Research Data Policy; University of Virginia: Faculty Departure Checklist; Princeton University: Rules and Procedures for the Faculty.

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**Commented [PE2]:** Is this same or different from 13000?





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Computer Software,” or “Sponsored Computer Invention”) all terms of the IP Policy shall apply.

### 2.2 Research Data Stewardship and Appropriate Sharing and Access

Principal Investigator. Principal investigators (PIs) and research group members are stewards and custodians of research data; if PIs choose to delegate responsibility within their research groups, the PIs remain accountable to the uUniversity for the stewardship and proper sharing of research data, results, and related materials. These responsibilities are shared with the university by the PI and research team members who generate, acquire, and work with the research data.

**Commented [MP3]:** Establishing the PI’s responsibilities and VT’s right to take custody of the data in the event of a concern.

Consistent with the university’s overarching goals of creation and dissemination of knowledge, it is important that research data be shared and distributed openly. PIs and project leaders are encouraged to share their data openly where appropriate. There are legitimate and compelling reasons, however, why data must be kept confidential. (hereafter described as “sensitive data”). For example, data must remain confidential when their release would reveal proprietary ideas and techniques of researchers and their partners, or when they include private information regarding concerning individual research subjects.

**Commented [MP4]:** Updated language (Harvard) to address open access where possible. Additional language added to address the protection of research participants and the security of the data.

Sensitive rResearch data may also be made available to other members of the Virginia Tech community and/or to research collaborators at other institutions, as appropriate, within the discretion of the PI, and subject to the terms of any applicable data use/transfer agreement (DTA/DUA), or other governing agreement, which that outlines the security and confidentiality requirements and other terms of any sponsored agreement or human-subjects protection requirements.

University Access. Should it be necessary for When it is necessary for the uUniversity to secure access to the research data, results, or related materials (e.g., during a research misconduct proceeding) an appointed official may take custody of research data, results, and related materials in the manner described in the relevant research integrity policy or as directed by the Office of the Vice President for Research.

Consistent with the uUniversity’s overarching goals of creation and dissemination of knowledge, it is important that research data be shared and distributed openly. There are legitimate and compelling reasons, however, why data must be kept confidential. ; For instanceexample, data must remain confidential when ittheir release would reveal proprietary ideas and techniques of researchers and their partners, or when itthey include private information regarding individual research subjects.

**Commented [MP5]:** Updated language (Harvard) to address open access where possible. Additional language added to address the protection of research participants and the security of the data.

Data collected by University research is owned by Virginia Tech and can address concerns regarding ownership disputes. The University has the proper resources to secure and manage research data, as well as protect associated intellectual property rights, and therefore is the appropriate administrator of such data. Consequently, f

### 2.3 University Responsibilities and Stewardship of Data, Results, and Related Materials

The university determines the rights, responsibilities, and principles that govern the administration of research data, results, and related materials. The university’s rights and obligations are not subject to negotiation and may not be altered in any agreement or proposal prepared by any faculty member or administrator.

The rights, responsibilities, and principles that determine how research data, results and related materials records should be handled ultimately belong to the uUniversity.

**Commented [MP6]:** Asserting VT’s stewardship responsibilities.



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~~The uUniversity is responsible for has responsibility for the stewardship and administration of the research data, results, and related materials in compliance with in regardwith respect to federal and state laws and regulations in the case of federally sponsored research and as any contractual requirements when funded by or collaborating with many public and private organizations.~~

~~These rights and responsibilities are shared with the the PI and research team members who generate, and acquire, and work with the research data and who work with it directly.~~

~~Although the uUniversity is the owner of all such research data, sound management practice calls for the uUniversity and researchers to work in partnership to fulfill these obligations. This policy defines "research data," assigns roles and responsibilities to key actors, and describes its relationship to other relevant uUniversity policies.~~

~~Virginia Tech's responsibilities with respect to research data include, but are not limited to:~~

- a. ~~Ensuring compliance with the terms of research agreements;~~
- b. ~~Protecting the rights of researchers, including, but not limited to, their rights to access to data resulting from research in whichthat they conducted;~~
- c. ~~Securing intellectual property rights;~~
- d. ~~Facilitating the investigation of concerns related to research misconduct or financial conflicts of interest;~~
- e. ~~Providing guidance overfor implementing the appropriate confidentiality and security protections overof research data;~~
- f. ~~Providing guidance for compliance with funder and publications requirements journal policies towards regarding data sharing and availability; and~~
- g. ~~Complying with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.~~

~~The uUniversity's rights and obligations are not subject to negotiation and may not be altered in any agreement or proposal prepared by any faculty member or administrator.~~

~~The PI or project leader (including the chairs of student thesis and/or dissertation committee) is expected to manage the uUniversity's ownership of research results and material (including all data) in ways that best advance the standard routes of publication, presentations, and other usual means of dissemination of research findings. Creation of intellectual properties must be disclosed to the uUniversity as described in Policy 13000, "IP Policy on Intellectual Properties.~~

### 2.4 Responsibilities of the Principal Investigator (PI)

~~The PI's responsibilities with respect to research data include, but are not limited to:~~

- a. ~~Ensuring proper management and retention of research data, results, and related materials in accordance with this policy and the uUniversity Records Retention Schedule;~~
- b. ~~Establishing and maintaining appropriate procedures for the protection of research data and other essential records, particularly for long-term research projects;~~
- c. ~~Ensuring compliance and the appropriate use of animals, human subjects, and biological materials;~~
- d. ~~Maintaining confidentiality of research data, where appropriateindicated;~~
- e. ~~Maintaining appropriate data use agreements for the sharing of research data, where indicated; and~~

**Commented [MP7]:** Notation of collaboration considerations.

**Commented [MP8]:** Clear designation of VT responsibilities. The base language was taken from Harvard' policy and modified for Virginia Tech.

**Commented [MP9]:** Clear designation of PI's responsibilities. The base language was taken from Harvard's policy and modified for Virginia Tech.



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- f. Establishing access levels for research data in compliance with the conditions of funding, and IRB requirements, where applicable; -and
- g. Complying with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Departure of PI or researcher. If a PI leaves Virginia Tech and a mutually agreed upon decision is made to move the project is to be moved to another institution, ownership of the original data may be transferred to the PI's new institution. Data transfer is subject to written agreement from the PI's new institution that guarantees its acceptance of ongoing custodial responsibilities for the data and acknowledges that Virginia Tech retains access to the original data, should such access become necessary for any reason; and relevant confidentiality restrictions, where appropriate.

**Commented [MP10]:** Identification of research ownership sharing/transfer when researchers leave VT. Information was pulled from Harvard, UVA, and Yale.

When individuals, other than PIs, who have been substantively involved in research projects leave the uUniversity the ownership of the research data remains with the university and original data must be retained at Virginia Tech by the PI. The departing researcher ~~they may take with them~~ copies of research data resulting from these projects, subject to relevant confidentiality restrictions, any requirements of the original research project, and conditioned upon the approval of the individual's department head in collaboration with Scholarly Integrity and Research Compliance (SIRC) and the Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP). In this event the ownership of the research data remains with the uUniversity and original data must be retained at Virginia Tech by the PI.

In either of these instances, the Mmembers of thea research team remaining at Virginia Tech retain the rights to use the original data. Any publications resulting from the data will be subject to Virginia Tech authorship guidelines as well asand the specific requirements of the journal in which publication occurs.

### 2.5 Graduate Student Research Data, Results, Related Materials

The Graduate School may, with the agreement of department heads, major professor(s), and students involved, embargo a thesis or dissertation up to one year after successful completion (see Graduate School Policies section of the Graduate Catalog).the Graduate School Policies section of the Graduate Catalog).

**Commented [PE11]:** link

The university asserts its rights to the results of research, funded wholly or in part with university resources. In addition, university ownership of intellectual properties is covered in Policy 13000, "Policy on Intellectual Properties." These ownership rights extend to all permanent and visiting faculty, research faculty, classified staff, wage employees, and students.

Normally, the faculty principal investigator or project leader (including the chairs of student thesis and dissertation committees even if not explicitly noted hereafter) is expected to manage the university's ownership of research results and material (this includes all data) in the ways that best advance the standard routes of publication, presentations, and other usual means of dissemination of research results for that particular field. Creation of intellectual properties must be disclosed to the university by the prescribed route.

It is the responsibility of the faculty principal investigator or project leader to preserve the research material and results in the manner that is customary to the field. This includes notebooks and files (independent of whether they are in analog or digital format), samples, specimens, prototypes, etc. that are germane to the veracity and validity of the research



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claims, but not any of the following: preliminary analyses, drafts of scientific papers, plans for future research, peer reviews, or communications with colleagues.

In the event that the faculty principal investigator or project leader permanently departs the university, it is the responsibility of that person's department head to determine the disposition of the research materials and results.

It is the responsibility of principal investigators or project leaders to establish appropriate levels of security, confidentiality, and access. Access levels for research data should advance the standard routes of publication, presentations, and other usual means of disseminating research results for that particular field. When appropriate, access to research results and materials will be limited to the university faculty, staff, and students who generate them and/or need access to them for bona fide research or administrative purposes.

The Graduate School may, with the agreement of department heads, major professor(s), and students involved, embargo a thesis or dissertations normally up to one year after successful completion (see the Graduate School Policies section of the Graduate Catalog).

All members of the university community are expected to foster and uphold the principles set forth in the university's Statement of Professional Ethics and Responsibilities (see the Faculty Handbook, as well as the Graduate School Policies section of the Graduate Catalog).

Issues relating to the misinterpretation, incorrect application, or violation of these policies shall be resolved through the appropriate university grievance procedure (see the Faculty Handbook, as well as the Graduate School Policies section of the Graduate Catalog).

### 3.0 Procedures

### 4.0 Definitions

**Research Data Results and Related Materials** are defined as recorded, tangible, or intangible research information, regardless of form or the media on which it may be recorded, that is created or collected in the process of performing research, whether supported by in whole or in part by university resources or by external funders. Research data, results and related materials include, but are not limited to, computer software (computer programs, computer databases, and documentation thereof), materials such as unmodified and modified biological specimens, new or modified chemical entities, laboratory notebooks, notes of any type, materials submitted to and/or approved by IRB, IACUC, IBC or other research oversight committees (e.g., applications, outreach/advertising materials, consent forms, survey routines/questionnaires and debriefing scripts), photographs, films, audio recordings, digital images, original or modified biological and environmental samples, gels, spectra,

**Commented [MP12]:** Base definition from the Harvard policy with modifications for Virginia Tech..



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cell lines, reagents, protocols, algorithms, graphs, charts, numerical raw experimental results, instrumental outputs, other deliverables under sponsored agreements; intangible data such as statistics, findings, conclusions, other deliverables under sponsored agreement; and any other records of, or in any form that could be used for, reconstruction and evaluation of reported or otherwise published results of research.

Other definitions ?

Principal Investigator?

### 5.0 References

1. Code of Virginia Chapter 7, "[The Virginia Public Records Act](#)"
2. [Policy 2000](#), "Management of University Records"
3. [Policy 13000](#), "Policy on Intellectual Property"
4. [Graduate Catalog](#)~~Grad catalogue~~
5. [Faculty Handbook](#)~~Faculty Handbook~~
6. [Office of Sponsored Projects \(OSP\)](#).
7. [Scholarly Integrity and Research Compliance \(SIRC\) OSP website](#)
8. [Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties \(VTIP\)](#)~~OVPR~~[SIRC website](#)  
~~Intellectua~~[Intellectual properites](#)~~properties website ?~~

### 6.0 Approval and Revisions

Recommended by the Commission on Research.  
Approved by University Council: February 7, 1994.  
Approved by the President: February 7, 1994.

Annual review October 3, 2001 by the Vice Provost for Research, Leonard K. Peters. No revisions.

- Revision 1  
This policy dated back to 2001 and made no reference to the possibility of digital files or notebooks. Language has been added referring to digital data. Data management plans are now commonly required by sponsors and revisions have been made to clarify the expectations for faculty members for research conducted here at the university.

Approved by the Commission on Research on April 20, 2015  
Approved by University Council on May 4, 2015



Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Approved by the Board of Visitors on June 1, 2015  
Approved June 30, 2015 by University President, Timothy D. Sands

□ Revision 2

The policy was updated to define Research Data and Materials, address the need for research data security and to provide additional guidance on the specific responsibilities of Virginia Tech and the Principal Investigator.

Approved by the Commission on Research on

Approved by University Council on

Approved by the Board of Visitors on

Approved \_\_\_\_\_by University President, Timothy D. Sands