The transport of biohazard material is regulated by a number of government agencies. It is imperative that personnel are aware of the applicable regulations and comply with them. The shipper of biohazard material is responsible for the proper classification, identification, packaging, labeling, and documentation of the shipped material. **Failure to comply could result in fines, the confiscation and destruction of the material and loss of valuable research time.**

**XI.1. Applicable Regulations**

The following is a list of regulations that control the shipping of hazardous materials:

1. U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA): 42 CFR 73, 7 CFR 331, and 9 CFR 121 for select agents or toxins; 42 CFR 73 is the implementation of the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002; 7 CFR 331 and 9 CFR 121 are implementations of the Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002 (Part of Title II of the PHSBPRA). The select agent list may be found in Appendix B of this manual.

2. U. S. Department of Transportation: 49 CFR 171 et seq.;

3. *Technical Instructions for Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air*, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO);

4. *Dangerous Goods Regulations*, International Air Transport Association, (IATA);

XI.2 Shipments within the United States

The United States Department of Transportation (DOT) has issued regulations covering the intrastate, interstate, and foreign shipment of hazardous materials.

Shippers of dangerous goods must be trained (49 CFR 172.700 et seq.) on the DOT regulations. Training must be documented and is required every three years. Individuals must comply with shipping regulations and certify that the shipped materials will arrive at their destination in good condition and will not present any hazards to humans or animals during the shipment. Commercial carriers will refuse to accept any packages that do not meet the regulations. Substantial fines, for both the individual and the University, may be incurred if an individual is not compliant.

Shipment or transfer of exempt amounts of select agent toxins (see Appendix B) falls under the DOT regulations for hazardous materials. **If shipping or transferring a non-exempt amount of select agent toxin, contact the University’s Responsible Official at 614-292-1284.**

XI.3 International Shipments

If hazardous or infectious materials are being shipped internationally, the shipper must complete training on the Dangerous Goods Regulations, International Air Transport Association, (IATA). This training must be completed every two years, or whenever the regulations change, whichever comes first.

The U.S. Government actively regulates the use, import, export, and interstate transport of many microorganisms, toxins, vectors and other infectious substances and biological materials. In many cases a permit or license from the Department of Commerce, the Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention (CDC) and/or the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) will be required. For specific information detailing current permit and licensing requirements by type of material see the “Import, Export and Transfer of Biological Materials Guide” on the EHS Biosafety webpage.

Material containing etiologic agents being imported into the United States must be accompanied by a U.S. Public Health Service importation permit. Importation permits are issued only to the importer, who must be located in the United States. The importation permit, with the proper packaging and labeling, will expedite clearance of the package through the United States Public Health Service Division of Quarantine and release by U.S. Customs.

The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) also regulates the importation of certain plants, animals and animal products into the United States. Please visit the APHIS website (http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/index.shtml) for more information on obtaining an APHIS permit.

The importer is legally responsible for assuring that the foreign personnel package, label, and ship the infectious materials according to Federal and International regulations. Shipping labels with the universal biohazard symbol, the address of the importer, the permit number, and the expiration date, are also issued to the importer with the permit. The importer must send the labels and one or more copies of the permit to the shipper. The permit and labels inform the U.S. Customs Service and U.S. Division of Quarantine Personnel of the package contents.

**XI.4 Intracampus transport of biohazardous materials**

Transportation of biohazard material on campus (including between laboratories) must be completed in a manner that takes into account the potential risk of the agent being moved. The biohazard material must:

- be enclosed in a **primary vessel** contained within a secondary
vessel;

- have a **closed, leak proof secondary vessel**, marked with the biohazard symbol, and marked with the name of the agent contained within the primary vessel;

- be **completely absorbed** by an absorbent material packed into the secondary vessel should the primary vessel be broken;

- have a secondary vessel constructed in such a manner that there will be no release into the environment of the agent in the case that the primary vessel becomes broken or leaks.

**Inappropriate transport of biohazard material constitutes a violation of the University’s Biohazard Policy and will be dealt with accordingly.**