

**Information Technology**

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March 8, 2018

David P. Norton  
Vice President for Research  
University of Florida

Dear Dr. Norton:

The University of Florida's Information Technology Division (UFIT) has created a computing environment to support research involving restricted data. This environment, ResearchVault (ResVault), meets contractually stated obligations for safeguarding data as specified by:

- NIST SP 800-53 Rev. 4 – Security and Privacy Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations (Moderate Impact Level)
- NIST SP 800-171 Rev.1 – Protecting Controlled Unclassified Information in Nonfederal Systems and Organizations
- Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS)

A ResVault System Security Plan (SSP) was created by the UFIT Research Computing and Information Security Offices in accordance with NIST SP 800-18 Rev.1, Guide for Developing Security Plans for Federal Information Systems. A Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M) has been created and serves as a corrective action plan for tracking and planning the resolution of information security deficiencies in the ResVault environment. One action to be completed includes an independent review of the system and controls, which is expected to be completed by July 31, 2018.

I approve and accept the risk for the operation of ResVault, as documented in the SSP, by the University of Florida to meet its contractual obligations in contracts that include clauses requiring compliance as stated above.

The approval for ResVault operation will remain in effect for one year as long as:

1. UFIT Research Computing satisfies the requirement of continuous monitoring as documented in the SSP;
2. UFIT Research Computing mitigates all security deficiencies documented in the POA&M; and
3. Significant changes or critical vulnerabilities that are identified are managed in accordance with applicable Federal law, guidelines, and policies.

Elias G. Eldayrie



Vice President & Chief Information Officer  
University of Florida

C: Joe Glover, Charlie Lane, Erik Deumens, Rob Adams