



SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY

## ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR

3030 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3030

Dr. Jim Hess  
President  
Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater, OK 74078

Dear President Hess:

The Department of War (DoW) is committed to fostering a collaborative academic environment while safeguarding the U.S. research enterprise from foreign exploitation. Oklahoma State University (OSU) appears to maintain an active connection with Fudan University. This entity is on the Department's most recently published list of foreign institutions engaging in problematic activities, pursuant to Section 1286 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, as amended (<https://www.cto.mil/fy25-ndaa-section-1286-list/>).

We strongly advise an immediate review of this relationship to protect U.S. critical technology and research integrity. Collaborations with Section 1286 entities introduce significant risk to both your institution and the broader national security landscape.

We respectfully request that OSU take the following actions:

1. Conduct a comprehensive review of all academic, financial, and research ties with any Section 1286 entity.
2. Evaluate the potential exposure of sensitive, DoW-funded, or export-controlled research within your institution.
3. Implement appropriate mitigation strategies—to include potentially terminating the affiliation—to ensure compliance with Federal research security guidelines and to maintain eligibility for future DoW funding opportunities.
4. Inform DoW of the results of the review and actions taken.

The DoW values its research partnership with OSU, but we must ensure that national security and scientific integrity are robustly protected. My point of contact for this matter is Mr. Dave Hirko, Deputy Assistant Secretary of War for Science and Technology Program Protection, at [david.b.hirko.civ@mail.mil](mailto:david.b.hirko.civ@mail.mil) or (571) 256-9905.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "J. S. Jewell", is positioned above the printed name.

Joseph S. Jewell, PhD