

Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences

Regulations on the Conduct of Research and Development Activities at AREC

June 2021

AREC is an off-campus center that accommodates multifunctional and interdisciplinary activities including teaching, research, training, and outreach activities. Managed by FAFS since its establishment in 1953, AREC offers AUB community a tangible and working model for the “Good Neighborhood Policy” as the neighboring Beqaa communities perceive the Center as a landmark and reference.

The campus is four times the size of AUB (1 Million m²) and offers open land spaces, classrooms, dorms, a cafeteria, a clinic, outdoor sports courts, farming equipment and facilities all built amid beautiful open greenspaces and beautiful vistas. The infrastructure offered at AREC is unique in the area; it offers high-speed internet, in addition to all amenities needed including electricity, water, heating, and cooling, security, and physical plant services.

AREC will provide AUB researchers access to its facilities, such as poultry houses, barns, lands, greenhouses, labs, etc. to encourage research, development and outreach to the local and regional communities.

The following regulations are intended to establish a framework for the conduct of research and development activities at AREC.

Clause One: Costs related to water, energy, land and facilities (except for room accommodations) shall not be charged but rather compensated for from the overhead and/or revenue from production. If estimated energy and water needs exceed the expected overhead, in which case things have to be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

Clause Two: Other chargeable expenses related to the use of AREC facilities (Labor, supplies,..) shall be incorporated in the project’s budget at the preparation of the budget/ planning stage. As such, all researchers will be responsible to cover the cost of casual workers and any extra work provided by AREC staff (straight time or overtime) such as cleaning houses, hygiene, feed mixing, feeding, vaccinating, slaughtering, packaging, seedbed preparation, fertilization, planting, spraying, irrigation, harvesting, and for all supplies needed for their projects.

Clause Three: Overhead shall be divided as follows: 50% for OGC, 25% for faculty/ faculties (per effort of the faculty member), 25% for AREC.

Clause Four: Revenue from production shall be divided as follows: 50% for the researcher and 50% for AREC (per new AUB policy, the money will go to the operating budget – not revolving fund –

and be used the year after). For development projects (where there is no revenue from production), these shall be discussed on a case-by-case basis before the initiation of the project.

Clause Five: Applicants should seek the input of the AREC director during the proposal preparation regarding the use of chemicals for biosecurity and environmental reasons. A list of these chemicals will be in accordance with AUB regulations (<https://www.aub.edu.lb/facilities/ehsrm/Pages/chemical.aspx>).

Clause Six: Non-AUB researchers or outside consultants/experts or any person from the private/academic/public sector will not be allowed to work at AREC premises without prior approval from the Dean or his/her designee (requested by emailing Fafs Deans Office: fafs@aub.edu.lb), unless the researcher/consultant is listed as a co-investigator on the grant/or as a study participant. Outside researchers/students must show proof of accident insurance and agree in signing that AUB/AREC will not be responsible for any harm inflicted on them due to accidents or events at AREC.

Clause Seven: Project leaders/coordinators should ensure that the project team applies the highest degrees of cleanliness, hygiene, and sanitation during and after the termination of their projects.

Clause Eight: Any damage or loss to equipment that belongs to AREC incurred by the researcher while conducting his/her project(s) at AREC is the responsibility of the researcher.

Clause Nine: Researchers will be responsible for their transportations, lodgings and meals at AREC.

Clause Ten: Payment for undergraduate students who participate in a research study should be through the university's work-study program and against logged hours and set rate, as per AUB policies.

Clause Eleven: Any culling at the end of any project should be in accordance with AUB policies (Procurement if to be sold and Supply Chain Office if to be donated).

Clause Twelve: Any violation of AUB policy will result in denying access to the AREC facilities for those who violate the policy or do not remedy within a period of 5 working days.