I. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to define membership terms and conditions, leadership selection and charge of the Radiation Safety Committee at UT Health San Antonio.

II. Scope

This Policy applies institution-wide to all current and prospective members of the UT Health San Antonio Radiation Safety Committee and associated Environmental Health and Safety units.

III. Policy

The implementation of the Radiation Safety Program is delegated to the Radiation Safety Officer. A Radiation Safety Committee is mandated by the Texas Department of State Health Services, Rules and Regulations Title 25 Texas Administrative Code 289.256. The Committee supports the institution’s Human Research Protection Program by reviewing research studies that involve radiation exposure of human participants as part of the research; the Committee notifies the Institutional Review Board (IRB) upon the review and approval of such studies or failure to approve them. Approval of the Radiation Safety Committee is required prior to final IRB approval.

An expedited review subcommittee will electronically review protocols between meetings that involve human participants. Other subcommittees may be required to meet between full Committee meetings.

A. Membership

Experience and or interest in the safe receipt, use, storage and disposal of radioactive material or the use of ionizing radiation is highly desirable. Tenured or non-tenured faculty are welcome. Membership will include:

1. One (1) research faculty representative from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
2. One (1) clinical faculty representative from the School of Dentistry
3. One (1) clinical faculty representative from the Long School of Medicine
4. One (1) faculty representative from Nuclear Medicine
5. One (1) faculty representative from Radiation Oncology
6. One (1) faculty representative who is a Radiologist
7. One (1) representative who is a Veterinarian
8. One (1) representative from University Health System/Nursing Service
9. One (1) medical physicist for Radiological Sciences

B. Ex-Officio Membership (with vote)
   1. Representative, University Health System Administration
   2. Director, Environmental Health and Safety

C. Ex-Officio Membership (without vote)
   1. Executive Vice President for Facilities Planning and Operations
   2. Radiation Safety Officer, Environmental Health and Safety
   3. PET Consultant, Research Imaging Center

D. Chair

The Assistant Vice President for Risk Management and Safety makes Chair and Vice Chair appointment recommendations from the membership to the Vice President for Academic, Faculty, and Student Affairs. The Vice President for Academic, Faculty, and Student Affairs will recommend to the President approval or disapproval for the appointment of the proposed Chair.

E. Charge

To serve in an advisory and consultative capacity to the President and the Executive Vice President for Facilities Planning and Operations and to advise the Radiation Safety Office:

1. to review all license applications and authorize all licenses, appending special conditions as needed;
2. to act as an avenue of appeal in cases of dispute and exception; and,
3. to be responsible for policies and practices regarding license and use of radioactive materials and sources of ionizing and non-ionizing radiation at UT Health San Antonio.
F. Term of Membership

Members serve on the Committee for a term of up to three (3) years.

IV. Definitions

There are no defined terms used in this Policy.

V. Related References

Texas Department of State Health Services, Laws and Rules - Radiation Control Program
Rule & Regulations, Title 25, Texas Administrative Code 289.256

VI. Review and Approval History

A. The approving authority of this policy is the University Executive Committee.

B. The review frequency cycle is set for three years following the last review date, a time period that is not mandated by regulatory, accreditation, or other authority.

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