Background:
UC’s global presence in education, research, service, and clinical activities continues to expand. Understanding the complexities of compliance obligations when engaged in University business remains a challenge for most faculty, staff, and students. To respond to this emerging and increased risk, the Office of Ethics, Compliance and Audit Services (ECAS) promotes ongoing identification of risks and collaborates within the Office of the President and across the system to engage stakeholders in discussion, develop tools and guidance, and to identify and anticipate upcoming challenges.

Current Status:
The risks identified by Sheryl Vacca, Senior Vice President and Chief Compliance and Audit Officer, at the March 2015 Regent’s Meeting remain relevant to the University’s international programs and activities:
- Multiple locations—UC is everywhere
- Customs and processes vary by country
- International laws conflict with US laws and UC processes
- Since 9/11, the US government has increased attention and oversight to US activities abroad
- Complex set of regulations
- Varying perspectives of government agencies
- Regulations unfamiliar in the academic setting
- High-level expertise required to address specific issues
- Necessary awareness and training

Responses:
To begin to address the risks associated with UC’s international activities, ECAS has partnered with other units engaged in international efforts:
- **International Compliance Workgroup:** In 2015, ECAS convened a work group (comprised of Financial Services, Risk Services, Academic Personnel and Programs, Institutional Research and Academic Planning, Office of General Counsel, ECAS, Innovation Alliances and Services) of departments involved in international compliance activities that provide services and consultation to campuses around international compliance activities. The charge of this work group is to review the areas where U.S. laws are applicable to the UC in international settings; examples include human subject research, travel, safety, and financial transactions.

The work group is focused on the following goals:
- Develop clear points of contact on campuses as a resource for international questions, concerns and/or issues
- Coordinate collection and dissemination of “best practices,” current guidance, and trainings across functional areas
- Provide context and FAQs around common “gray areas” to provide clearer guidance
- Provide tangible resources including education, training, FAQs, guidance documents, accessible to all in UC
- Continued coordination with the Provost’s International Policy work group and assure policy compliance with necessary resources, when available

- **UCGO website development:** In partnership with Research Policy Analysis and Coordination (RPAC) in the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, ECAS has developed UCGO, a new website designed to connect UC faculty, staff, students, and foreign collaborators and partners with the information they need to navigate the complex world of international activities. Originally developed as a four-campus project funded by a UCOP Research Opportunity Fund, the UC Global Operations (UC GO) website
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
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was designed as a hub/clearinghouse for faculty, students, and staff engaged in global health
research. The new site provides expanded content to address all types of international activities,
including research, education, travel, and partnerships/collaborations. Wide release of UCGO is
scheduled for September 2016.

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