

Oregon Tech Policy OIT-30-050 USE OF UAS/DRONES ON CAMPUS

1. Policy Statement

The operation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), including drones and model aircraft, is regulated nationally by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This Oregon Tech policy establishes procedures to ensure compliance with legal obligations and address concerns on safety, security, and privacy, while supporting the use of UAS technology to further the Oregon Tech educational mission, as well as to provide for the use of UAS for recreation. This document acts and serves as the official Oregon Tech policy until replaced or repealed.

2. Reason for Policy/Purpose

Oregon Tech recognizes that the operation of UAS (also referred to as “drones”) are popular for both recreational and educational usage. This policy establishes minimal requirements for the safe operation of UAS’s and shall be a reference for each campus to use to assist with compliance with FAA regulations, state and local laws, and university policies.

3. Applicability/Scope

This policy applies to all students and employees of the University, and all persons planning to operate a UAS/drone on University property.

4. Definitions

UAS: Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

Drone: An unmanned aircraft system.

FAA: Federal Aviation Administration.

5. Policy

Individuals may operate UAS on Oregon Tech property or at approved off-campus sites while representing Oregon Tech, provided that they follow federal, state, local, and Oregon Tech laws, regulations, and policies, including but not limited to the FAA Part 107 and / or Section 336 (Public Law 112-95) guidelines (Annex A – FAA Requirements for UAS Operations), Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 837.360 - 837.998, ORS 163.700, and the Oregon Tech policies outlined below.

UAS flights shall comply with all applicable FAA regulations and Oregon Revised Statutes in effect.

UAS flights on the Klamath Falls campus **shall check in** with Sky Lakes Hospital Security at 541-274-3637 prior to flight to check for known helicopter operations, and to provide the hospital with a contact number in case of unexpected emergency flight operations. UAS shall not commence or continue flight when a helicopter is visually sighted or heard in the vicinity of the Klamath Falls campus or the Sky Lakes Medical Center.

UAS are not allowed to fly within 100 yards of any on-campus living facilities or generally within 50 yards of other campus buildings, structures (including the solar array and geothermal power plant), or parking lots without an approved waiver from the Campus Safety, Public Affairs, and Risk Management Departments. UAS shall not be flown inside any buildings or structures without an approved, current Oregon Tech waiver. (Annex C–Campus Map with Restricted UAS Flight Areas)

UAS flights are allowed in parking lots E, F2, and H; however, UAS are not allowed to fly over parked cars and are required to maintain a safe distance from people and vehicles. (Annex C)

UAS shall not fly within 50 yards of any outdoor gathering of people on campus, such as graduation or a sporting event.

UAS shall not be used to monitor or record sensitive or private information anywhere on campus, including the residence halls.

UAS operators desiring an exemption to any of the above policies or desiring to conduct commercial flights over Oregon Tech campuses or when representing Oregon Tech must have prior written permission to conduct such operations from the Campus Safety, Risk Management, and Public Affairs Departments. (Annex B – Waiver Request for Variance from Oregon Tech UAS Policy)

UAS may not be flown on campus in winds greater than 20 mph / 17 knots / 9 m/s.

Students

Students using UAS for recreation or as part of their education shall comply with Section 336 guidelines unless operating under the more restrictive FAA Part 107 rules or with an active FAA Section 333 waiver.

Faculty

Faculty conducting UAS operations or research in conjunction with their official duties shall comply with FAA Part 107 regulations, except where operations are incidental and in support of students' education which are governed under Section 336 or where FAA waivers have been granted. Faculty or staff flying personal drones for recreation may comply with Section 336.

All UAS operators are responsible for any damages caused by their actions, in-action, or negligence.

6. Violations

Any violations of the above policies, laws or regulations may subject a UAS operator to disciplinary proceedings and/or an order to vacate campus property. Prohibitions against future flights may also be pursued by Oregon Tech. Fines or damages incurred by individuals that do not comply with this policy or applicable laws or regulations will not be paid by Oregon Tech and will be the responsibility of those involved.

7. Links to Related Procedures, Forms, or Information

[FAA Requirements For UAS Operations](#)

[Waiver Request For Variance From Oregon Tech UAS Policy](#)

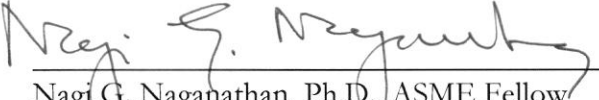
[Campus Map With Restricted UAS Flight Areas](#)

8. Policy Review/Consultation

This policy will be reviewed by the Oregon Tech Drone Advisory Group annually, when regulations change, when there are significant technological changes, or when there is an incident.

This policy was reviewed and open to consultation of the following Oregon Tech committees and/or advisory groups:

Faculty Senate, Administrative Council, Associated Students of OIT, Oregon Tech Drone Advisory Group, and President's Council.

Approved: 
Nagi G. Naganathan, Ph.D., ASME Fellow
President

Date: Nov 20, 2018