Dual Use Research of Concern

The U.S. Government Policy for Institutional Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern requires institutional oversight of “life sciences research that, based on current understanding, can be reasonably anticipated to provide knowledge, information, products, or technologies that could be directly misapplied to pose a significant threat with broad potential consequences to public health and safety, agricultural crops and other plants, animals, the environment, materiel, or national security.”

If you use or are proposing to use any quantity of the following 15 agents and toxins, Vassar must evaluate for DURC potential:

1. Avian influenza virus (highly pathogenic)
2. Bacillus anthracis
3. Botulinum neurotoxin
4. Burkholderia mallei
5. Burkholderia pseudomallei
6. Ebola virus
7. Foot-and-mouth disease virus
8. Francisella tularensis
9. Marburg virus
10. Reconstructed 1918 Influenza virus
11. Rinderpest virus
12. Toxin-producing strains of Clostridium botulinum
13. Variola major virus
14. Variola minor virus
15. Yersinia pestis

PIs should promptly notify the Grants Office about plans to work with DURC agents or with any questions. The Grants Office and PI will then consult with the Environmental Health and Safety team.