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Around the Nation

Penn Shifts Defense Data Research

PHILADELPHIA — The University of Pennsylvania announced yesterday it has abandoned its controversial Institute of Cooperative Research which had been working on biological and chemical warfare data for the Department of Defense.

However, Dr. Gaylord P. Harnwell, president of Penn, said the research would continue under the supervision of the office of the University's provost, Dr. David R. Goddard.

The ICR, which was concerned primarily with engineering and the physical sciences, had been under attack for more than a year for accepting classified contracts with the Defense Department. One published article called it Penn's "school for spies."

The University flatly denied the allegation, but acknowledged that ICR had worked for the Government on work involving "the protection of military forces

and civilian populations which might be attacked by chemical or biological weapons."

Harnwell, saying ICR "will no longer be needed," announced that research will be expanded into all departments to facilitate a wider range of inter-disciplinary effort, including work in the social sciences, the medical and biological sciences and the humanities.

Although not asserting that Penn was giving up any classified research, the announcement said:

"Further means for implementing university policy, under which the results of all research must be freely punishable, are being explored in consultation with the faculty."