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ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH

INTEGRITY

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ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH INTEGRITY



Graduate Roles and Responsibilities

Professional Identity: Developing a sense of yourself as a disciplined member of your professional community involves:

Personal commitment and dedication

- ❑ Self discipline, self-motivation, organization, time management, goal-orientation
- ❑ Producing and disseminating new knowledge or creative work
- ❑ Responsible and ethical conduct in the academic enterprise



What do we mean by Academic and Research Integrity?

- The core values that underlie the responsible and ethical production, and the fair and respectful dissemination, of research, scholarship and creative work in institutions of higher education.



- ❑ The Center for Academic Integrity (CAI) at Clemson University defines academic integrity as “a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. From the values flow principles of behaviour that enable academic communities to translate ideals to action”.



To whom does academic and research integrity apply?

- ❑ Students
- ❑ Faculty
- ❑ Staff

“The ability of the university to achieve its purposes depends upon the quality and integrity of the academic work that its faculty, staff, and students perform.”

(Rights, Rules, Responsibilities. Princeton University, 1995)



What does academic and research integrity involve?

“Academic integrity includes, but is not limited to, honesty and fairness in quizzes, examinations, and assignments; properly acknowledging the work of others in papers, theses, and dissertations; and following ethical and responsible practices when conducting research.”

(UNM Guide to Graduate Studies).



“The Scientific research enterprise is built on a foundation of trust. Scientists trust that the results reported by others are valid. Society trusts that the results of research reflect and honest attempt by scientists to describe the world accurately without bias. But this trust will endure only if the scientific community devotes itself to exemplifying and transmitting the values associated with ethical scientific conduct.” (On being a scientist, National Academies Press)



What is at stake in academic and research integrity?

“... nothing less than public trust in the research, writing, and creative work produced at the university.”

(UNM guide to Graduate Studies)



“Academic freedom can flourish only in a community of scholars which recognizes that intellectual integrity, with its accompanying rights and responsibilities, lies at the heart of its mission. Observing basic honesty in one’s work, words, ideas, and actions is a principle to which all members of the community are required to subscribe.”

(Rights, Rules, Responsibilities, Princeton University 1995.)



What is Responsible Conduct of Research?

- ❑ To achieve excellence in research and maintain public trust in research outcomes, an environment that promotes and fosters the Academic with Integrity and Responsible Conduct of Research (“RCR”) is critical.
- ❑ As of January 2010, both National Science Foundation (“NSF”) and National Institutes of Health (“NIH”) began the requirement that all institutions who receive federal funds establish a plan for providing and certifying completion of RCR instruction by investigators.



- ❑ UNM's Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research ("RECR") program serves as a central resource for RCR guidance and coordinates RCR instruction on campus.
- ❑ This Scientific Integrity Plan ("SIP") establishes appropriate standards for RCR instruction, <http://research.unm.edu/researchethics/>.



Responsible Conduct of Research

UNM Scientific Integrity Plan core areas of instruction:

- ❑ Conflict of interest and commitment
- ❑ Ethical use of human and animal subjects in research
- ❑ Authorship and publication
- ❑ Data acquisition, management, ownership, and sharing
- ❑ Peer review
- ❑ Mentoring and mentee relationships
- ❑ Research misconduct (plagiarism, fabrication, falsification) and whistleblower ethics
- ❑ Collaborative research, including with industry
- ❑ The scientist as a responsible member of society.



Whistleblowing

- **Misconduct is:**
 - Fabrication, Falsification, Plagiarism (Fed Register)
- **Questionable Research Practices (not MC)**
 - Poor data management, record keeping, or note taking (Research shows 1/100 researchers.)
- **When should you speak out? Document?**
 - Criminal action is involved;
 - Research misconduct has occurred;
 - Physical injury or loss of life could result; and/or
 - Facilities, equipment or materials and resources are at risk



What is Research Compliance?

- Biohazard Compliance Office – <http://hsc.unm.edu/som/biohazard/>
- BioSafety: UNM Safety and Risk Services – <http://risk.unm.edu/training/biosafety.php>
- Conflicts of Interest (COI), Main Campus <http://research.unm.edu/coi/> & Health Sciences Center – <http://hsc.unm.edu/research/coi/index.shtml>
- Export Control <http://research.unm.edu/exportcontrol/> and Industrial Security <http://research.unm.edu/indsustrialsecurity/>



- Human Research Protections Office –
<http://hsc.unm.edu/som/research/hrrc/>
- Office of Animal Care and Compliance –
<http://hsc.unm.edu/som/research/acc/>
- Radiation Safety – <http://risk.unm.edu/radiation/index.php>
- University Counsel: Research and Technology Law Group
<http://www.unm.edu/~counsel/rsc/services.htm>



RCR Certification

Responsible Conduct of Research certification can be attained by:

- ❑ attending symposia, brownbag discussion groups, 8 contact-hour courses (that can be customized to need and range from 8 weeks to 2 days);
- ❑ receiving RCR instruction that provided within existing courses or professional development seminars, such as workshops offered through the Graduate Student Funding Initiative.

(See <http://research.unm.edu/graduatefunding/>).



How do we recognize academic and research integrity?

We tend to recognize academic integrity in the breach.

- ❑ Cheating on quizzes and exams
- ❑ Plagiarizing in written work or verbal presentations
- ❑ Fabricating data or bibliographical information
- ❑ Unauthorized collaboration
- ❑ Falsifying grades
- ❑ Misrepresenting oneself to gain advantage



What are the causes of the rise of cheating and plagiarism?

- ❑ Peer acceptance (Ma et al. 2006)
- ❑ Availability and ease of internet sources
- ❑ Lack of understanding about academic integrity
- ❑ Lack of institutional or classroom policies or codes of conduct
- ❑ Lack of detection
- ❑ Lack of consequences
- ❑ Product oriented assignments and examinations
- ❑ High stakes assignments and examinations
- ❑ Pressure to succeed and achieve.



As a student, what can you do to ensure compliance

- Practice and model the values of academic integrity:
 - Honest
 - Trust
 - Fairness
 - Respect
 - Responsibility



- Take careful notes and document your sources and data.
- Give yourself sufficient time to complete assignments – avoid last minute rush.
- Trust yourself: your ideas expressed in your own words are valuable.
- Consider the value of learning for its own sake.
- Consider the consequences.



What are UNM's Policies?

UNM Pathfinder: (<http://pathfinder.unm.edu/>)

MATTERS SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Appropriate disciplinary procedures and sanctions shall be applied to any student who commits, or attempts to commit, any of the following acts of misconduct: [...]

2.4. Academic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filing out applications or other University records.



DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE, STUDENT ACADEMIC HONESTY

(<http://dos.unm.edu/student-academic-integrityhonesty.htm>)

Sanctions. Possible sanctions for academic dishonesty range from a verbal or written warning to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion, along with attendance at appropriate workshops or other educational sanctions. Specific definitions of these sanctions can be found in **The UNM Pathfinder**.



“If we knew what it was we were doing, it would not be called research, would it?”

~Albert Einstein (Standing with Marie Curie)

Questions?



THANKING
YOU

