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Responsible Conduct of Research

Academic Integrity at the University of Manitoba



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

The Tri-Council Framework

- NSERC, SSHRC and CIHR have set out a Framework for the responsible conduct of research
- The Framework applies to **all** research conducted at the University
- The UM signed onto this Framework, as did all Universities in Canada that wish to remain eligible for Tri-Council funding
- Required policy updates to reflect this Framework
- Policy requires that Faculty and trainees be knowledgeable in the responsible conduct of research



Tri-Council Framework

- All funding applications are based on accurate and reliable information
- All public funds are used in a responsible manner in accordance with funding agreements
- Promote and protect the quality, accuracy and reliability of all research conducted at an institution
- Promote fairness in the conduct of research and in the processes for addressing allegations of policy breaches



New From the Tri-Councils

1. *Consent to disclosure of personal information* – will allow the Tri-Councils to release the name and institution of anyone found to be in breach of research policies.

2. *At the time of application, you must disclose whether you have ever been found to have breached any University of Manitoba or any other institution's responsible conduct of research policies*

3. *All breaches investigated by the UM, whether substantiated or not, must be reported to the Tri-Council Ethics Secretariat.*



UM Policies and Procedures With Respect to Responsible Conduct of Research

- http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Responsible_Conduct_of_Research_-_Code_of_Research_Ethics_Policy_-_2013_05_21.pdf
- http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Responsible_Conduct_of_Research_Policy_-_2013_05_21.pdf
- http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Responsible_Conduct_of_Research_-_Investigation_Procedures_-_2013_07_17.pdf



Code of Research Ethics

- Methodological rigor
- Acknowledgement of all contributors
- Accuracy and retention of all data
- Appropriate citation of all sources
- Appropriate authorship
- Acknowledge conflicts of interest



UM Policy on the Responsible Conduct of Research

- Revised and updated to harmonize with the Tri-Council Framework
- Codifies the terms and definitions associated with responsible conduct of research
- Allows for investigating alleged breaches



Investigation Procedures

- UM policy and procedures are consistent with the Tri-Council Framework
- The Designated Officer is the Vice-President (Research and International)
- Protection for “whistleblowers”
- Due process for the person alleged to have breached
- Appeal process
- Appropriate procedures for frivolous allegations
- Where appropriate, sanctions by the Vice-President (Academic) and Provost (in consultation with the appropriate Dean) or other manager/supervisors as appropriate
- Allows for informal resolution of breaches where the breach is deemed by all parties to be of a minor nature



Education/Awareness at UM

- UM has purchased an on line tutorial from the Epigeum Group (UK)
- Content advisor is Dr. Nicholas Steneck, University of Michigan and world-renowned expert in the ethics of research and research integrity
- Available through D2L [umanitoba.ca/D2L]
- You can self-register for the course – and it is FREE – no tuition!!!
- iThenticate – plagiarism detection software



On Line Tutorial Topics

- The student-supervisor relationship
- Ownership of data; IP
- Research records
- Plagiarism
- Self-plagiarism
- Copyright
- Authorship
- Reviewing/publication ethics (grant applications and papers/manuscripts)



On Line Research Integrity Course

- Available through Desire2 Learn – go to umanitoba.ca/d2l; use your JUMP id and password and look for “my courses” to see the research integrity course
- You can self-register by clicking the “self register” button in the top navigation bar in D2L



Examples of Common Avoidable Breaches

- Plagiarism
- Improper Citation
- Gratuitous Authorship
- Duplicate Publications
- Improper authorship
- Improper acknowledgement



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