Research Integrity Overview

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Associate Vice President for
Research Integrity
Research Integrity

Research provides new knowledge that enriches the quality and quantity of our lives.

Like any exploratory activity, however, research is not without risks and responsibilities.

Rules, regulations and guidelines have been developed to minimize the risks associated with research.

In research integrity, we work with researchers to help them comply with these rules and regulations and to provide a safe working environment so they can focus on the fun stuff.

Spiderman

and

Voltaire
Research Integrity Areas

I. Research Ethics

II. Research Safety (Rob Moon)
Research Integrity Areas

Research Ethics

• Research involving human subjects, such as clinical trials of new therapeutic drugs or devices.

• Research involving animals such as testing new therapies to treat diseases.

• Financial conflicts of interest.

• Research involving national security

• Honesty in performing and reporting research.
How do we provide assurance that research in each of these areas adheres to the highest ethical standards?

Safety committees composed of experts in each field review the proposed research and may require modifications to the project to ensure that the study is ethically sound.
Ethics Review Committees

Institutional Review Board: Any research plan involving human subjects.

Institutional Animal Use and Care Committee: Any research or teaching plan involving vertebrate animals.

Institutional Biosafety Committee: Any research involving pathogens, toxins, or other biological hazards.

Radiation Safety Committee: Any research involving radioactivity.
Conflict of Interest (COI)

• Occasionally, a research project has the potential to place the researcher in a conflict of interest

• For instance, owning stock in a company that is paying you to test one of its new drugs. If the drug tests are successful you stand to make lots of $$$ but if the drug tests are not successful ...

• To manage these sorts of conflicts, we have a Financial Conflict of Interest Committee whose job is to devise a management plan for the researcher that keeps him/her from being placed in this predicament.

• The committee may allow the researcher to perform the study but not to receive or analyze the data.
Export Control Regulations

• Some research activities are restricted by the federal government. Examples are:
  – Weapons research
  – Research that uses technology that can be used for weapons development
  – Research that involves trade with embargoed countries

• This type of research may be subject to export controls that restrict who has access to the research and technology. Violations carry severe penalties.

• Our Export Control Office works closely with Sponsored Programs, researchers and the Office of International Students and Scholars to identify and resolve potential issues.
Research Misconduct

• Research misconduct occurs when a researcher makes up data (fabrication), alters data (falsification), or uses another person’s data, ideas, or writing without their permission (plagiarism) when proposing, conducting, reviewing or reporting research.

• We are obligated by federal law to investigate any credible accusation of research misconduct.

• Allegations of research misconduct are handled by the Research Integrity Officer (me) according to WSU policy.
What is the major conflict between faculty and trainees in research labs?
Data Ownership

“Guidelines Regarding Research Data Ownership”

In general, all research data are owned by the University.

The Principle Investigator (faculty advisor) is the steward of the research data.

• Collect, manage, and retain research data.
• Decide when and where to publish the data.
Trainees and Research Data

- Trainees may not take original copies of data when leaving the Institution without written permission of the Chair or Dean.

- Trainees may be allowed to take duplicate copies of data with permission from Principal Investigator.
  - Should be arranged in advance.
  - Helpful if agreement is in writing.
Suggestions for Avoiding Authorship Disputes

• Discuss early in the collaboration:
  – Who can expect to be an author
    • On presentations? On abstracts? On publications?
  – Under what circumstances can an investigator or trainee expect to be an author?
    • Sometimes, always, never, only if...
    • Who can initiate a report of the data?
  – When can preliminary data be used in a grant application, and by whom?

• It is highly recommended to form a committee to organize, track and review the above activities
Questions or Comments?

Research Integrity

http://www.research.wayne.edu/compliance/
Lab Safety Culture

Rob Moon, Director
Office of Environmental Health and Safety
577-1200
VALUE OF SAFETY

• Safe labs are more productive and produce better results

• Safety improves WSU’s reputation with Media, Employers, Community, Regulators

• Industry standards:
  – ISO 14000 (Environmental) and 45001 (Health and Safety - available 12/2017)
  – OHSAS 18001 - Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems
“IT’S THE LAW!” - OSHA

• Every worker has a voice.
• You must know your rights and that you can use them without retaliation when you believe that safety or health is at risk.
• WSU must provide a workplace free from recognized hazards.
• It is illegal to retaliate for raising concerns with MIOSHA.
• Call OEHS at 577-1200 with questions
OEHS Resources
OEHS.WAYNE.EDU • 577-1200

- Lab safety training is available in person or online
- Lab safety inspection criteria (chemical hygiene) and explanations
- Biosafety, Radiation, Laser Safety, Animal Contact, Dangerous Goods Shipping, Controlled Substances, Hazardous Waste
- OEHS is always available to consult / advise
Observations from other Universities

- Safety is everyone’s responsibility
- Formally communicate safety commitment
- Researchers and administration need to openly communicate frequently, and cooperate
- Safety culture is complex & multi-dimensional
- Be persistent and consistent
Researcher Empowerment

• Consider safety while planning research
  • Research isn’t complete until waste is dealt with
  • Document safety Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
• Receive training about hazards in your lab
• Follow safety rules. Set a good example
• Report incidents and hazards to PI
Dangerous Goods must be shipped by trained personnel. Violations are punishable by up to 10 years in prison and $110,000 fine per violation.

**DRY ICE and LITHIUM BATTERIES are classified as Dangerous Goods** – ALL materials shipped on dry ice are regulated.

Call 577-1200 with questions