



Responsible Conduct of Research Policy

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OVERVIEW

This Policy formally adopts the principles embodied in the [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research 2018](#) [the Code] and should be read in conjunction with the Code. This Policy is predicated on the principle that researchers associated with the University are committed to high standards of professional conduct, and that they will ensure their work enhances the good name of the University and the profession to which they belong. Like the Code it adopts, the Policy simply formalises principles that naturally flow from such a commitment to excellence.

SCOPE AND APPLICATION

This Policy applies to all staff, students and titleholders of the University of Adelaide and its controlled entities who are or have been involved in the conduct of [research](#) associated with the University. It also applies to staff, students and titleholders previously associated with the University where the event forming an allegation of research misconduct occurred while they held the position of a staff member, student or titleholder. Compliance with the principles outlined in the Code is a requirement for the receipt of funding from the Australian Research Council and the National Health and Medical Research Council, thus application of the Code is crucial to the ongoing research viability of the University.

Implementation of this Policy will be carried out in accordance with the University's [Code of Conduct](#) and the [Academic Board Statement on Undue Influence](#). Any attempts to improperly exert pressure or influence actions or decisions made pursuant to this Policy must be reported in accordance with the [Fraud and Corruption Control Policy](#).

POLICY PRINCIPLES

1. The University endorses and adopts the general principles of responsible research outlined in the Code. The University broadly endorses and adopts the principles and responsibilities outlined in the Code as a guide to good practice.
2. All researchers associated with the University, whether staff, students or titleholders, are expected to:
 - a. read and be familiar with the content of the Code;
 - b. conduct their research in a manner consistent with the principles and responsibilities outlined in the Code; and
 - c. conduct their research in compliance with other legal or regulatory requirements, this Policy and any University procedures or guidelines relevant to their field of research.
3. Researchers must determine if they require ethics and/or other relevant compliance approvals prior to conducting their research or at any point when requirements change, attain such approvals if necessary, and conduct their research in a manner consistent with the approval given.

4. University managers and researchers must ensure, to the best of their ability, that University procedures, guidelines and processes are consistent with practices recommended in the Code, and that the Code informs the development and implementation of University procedures and guidelines related to the conduct of research.
5. The University will support staff, students and titleholders to conduct responsible research practices through availability of research integrity training and a network of Research Integrity Advisers.
6. All Complaints of a Breach of the Code or this Policy will be dealt with in a fair, transparent, confidential and serious manner, subject to the [Research Misconduct Procedure](#), the University's [Enterprise Agreement](#), and the [Student Misconduct Rules](#).
7. In the event of a complaint of a Breach of the Code, the University will fulfil its obligations under the contractual arrangements in place with funding bodies and Affiliated Organisations.
8. For funding received from the United States Public Health Services (PHS), compliance with PHS Policies on Research Misconduct 42CFR Part 93 is required, and investigation of complaints about fabrication, falsification or plagiarism in relation to projects funded by the PHS will be conducted in accordance with said Policies.

DEFINITIONS

Research

The concept of research 'includes the creation of new knowledge and/or the use of existing knowledge in a new and creative way so as to generate new concepts, methodologies, inventions and understandings. This could include synthesis and analysis of previous research to the extent that it is new and creative'.¹

Refer to the Research Misconduct Procedure for a full list of related definitions.

Policy Custodian	Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research)
Responsible Policy Officer	Executive Director, Research Services, ICS
Endorsed by	Academic Board on 5 June 2019
Approved by	Vice-Chancellor and President on 6 June 2019 Reaffirmed with minor amendments on 20 September 2022
Related Documents and Policies	Academic Board Statement on Undue Influence Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research 2018 Authorship Policy Behaviour and Conduct Policy Code of Conduct Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities: Guidelines for researchers and stakeholders 2018 Fraud and Corruption Control Policy and Plan Funding from the Tobacco Industry Policy Intellectual Property Policy National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research Research Misconduct Procedure Research Data and Primary Materials Policy Research Education and Supervision Policy University of Adelaide Enterprise Agreement (as amended or replaced) Information Management Policy Whistleblower Policy
Related Legislation	Refer to http://www.adelaide.edu.au/research-services/oreci/integrity/ State Records Act 1997 US Public Health Services Policies on Research Misconduct 42CFR
Superseded Policies	
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¹ The Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, 2018, p.5