



Texas A&M University

RESEARCH MISCONDUCT

Texas A&M University is committed to promoting and ensuring the highest standards of research integrity. Misconduct in research is defined as the fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, reviewing, or reporting research. It does not include honest error or honest differences in interpretations or judgments of data, nor does it include other forms of misconduct, such as sexual or other forms of harassment, misuse of funds, gross negligence in a person’s professional activities, etc.

RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT MISCONDUCT

A Texas A&M University employee who becomes aware of possible misconduct in research should immediately report the concerns and/or allegations to his/her supervisor, department head, or dean, who will consult immediately with the designated officer regarding the nature of the concerns and/or allegations. The Research Integrity Officer (RIO) for Texas A&M is Dr. Gerianne Alexander, associate vice president for research.

RESPONSE TO ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT

There are three stages of response to an allegation of misconduct: (1) assessment, (2) inquiry, and (3) investigation. Each of these stages is explained fully in University SAP 15.99.03.M1.01: Guidelines for Scientific Misconduct Investigation and Inquiry (rules-saps.tamu.edu/PDFs/15.99.03.M1.01.pdf). The RIO is responsible for carrying out this rule and related standard administrative procedures (SAPs) activities for students, faculty, and staff at Texas A&M University.

PROTECTING THE COMPLAINANT AND RESPONDENT

Although the Texas Public Information Act may prevent the RIO from providing anonymity to a known complainant, the complainant will be treated with fairness and respect, and, when the concern(s) and/or allegation(s) has been expressed in good faith, reasonable steps will be taken to protect against retaliation directed toward the position and reputation of the complainant. The respondent will be treated with fairness and respect, and reasonable steps will be taken to ensure that procedural safeguards listed in system regulations and in University rules and SAPs are followed.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Texas A&M University System Regulation 15.99.03: Ethics in Research, Scholarship and Creative Work policies.tamus.edu/15-99-03.pdf

Texas A&M University Rule 15.99.03.M1: Ethics in Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work rules-saps.tamu.edu/PDFs/15.99.03.M1.pdf

Texas A&M University SAP 15.99.03.M1.01: Guidelines for Scientific Misconduct Investigation and Inquiry rules-saps.tamu.edu/PDFs/15.99.03.M1.01.pdf

Texas A&M University SAP 15.99.03.M1.02: Guidelines for Authorship and Publication Practices rules-saps.tamu.edu/PDFs/15.99.03.M1.02.pdf

Texas A&M University SAP 15.99.03.M1.03: The Responsible Stewardship of Research Data rules-saps.tamu.edu/PDFs/15.99.03.M1.03.pdf

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Produced by Research Communications 01/2020

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