

POLICY ON RESEARCH MISCONDUCT  
(Adopted 12/28/89, Revised 4/13/92; 2/26/96, 12/9/014)

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PREFACE

1. This policy statement represents the University of Scranton's commitment to ensuring adherence to appropriate standards in the conduct of research by its faculty, staff, and students. Primary responsibility for adherence to standards rests with the individual researcher. However, the University has an interest in seeing that certain minimal conditions are met in this sphere of activity.

2. This policy statement is formulated to comply with current federal regulations, e.g., from the Public Health Service (PHS) and the National Science Foundation (NSF), regarding scientific misconduct. However, this policy applies to all research conducted by members of the University community under any circumstances and is not restricted to externally funded research. All researchers should be aware that no actions taken by the University in response to allegations of misconduct preclude inquiry, investigation, or disciplinary action by a federal agency. Copies of the misconduct regulations of NSF and PHS are available at the Office of Research Services.

3. This policy statement is based upon and guided by general principles enunciated in the Framework for Institutional Policies and Procedures to Deal with Fraud in Research (November 4, 1988) developed by the Association of American Universities (AAU), the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC), and the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS). In some instances, wording has been taken directly from these guidelines in formulating the University's policy statement.

4.

For purposes of this policy, misconduct is defined as follows:

1. Fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, or other practices that seriously deviate from those that are commonly accepted within the scientific community for proposing, conducting, or reporting research. It does not include honest error or honest differences in interpretations or judgment of data.
2. Misappropriation of others' ideas, i.e., the unauthorized use of privileged information (such as violation of confidentiality in peer review), however obtained.
3. Failure to meet University and/or federal policies regarding use of human or animal subjects in research.
4. Failure to meet legal requirements governing research.
- 5.



If an investigation is warranted, the chairs of the Faculty Affairs Council (FAC) and the Faculty Personnel Committee (FPC) shall be so informed by the Director of Research. In order to draw

*Findings*

The Research Committee (or IRB or IACUC) completes its investigation by filing with the Director of Research a report of findings which indicates whether or not research misconduct has occurred, the basis for the determination, and recommendations regarding corrective