

## **Integrity in Research and Research Misconduct**

### **Purpose of Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to foster an environment that promotes responsible conduct of research, discourages research misconduct and acts promptly with any allegations and/or evidence of possible research misconduct.

### **Integrity in Research and Misconduct Policy**

Employees and others acting for and/or on behalf of the University while conducting research shall encourage and maintain the highest ethical standards. Employees must demonstrate Integrity in Research by setting forth high expectations of ethical behavior including adhering to the highest standards of intellectual honesty and integrity. As well as creating an environment which encourages open discussion, appropriate supervision, maintenance of research protocol and results and the assignment of credit and responsibility for research and publications. All essential to fostering honesty and integrity.

Allegations of research misconduct including fabrication, falsification and/or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research or in research results (not including honest error or differences in opinion) will be investigated and reported to funders as appropriate.

### **Findings of Misconduct**

A finding of research misconduct requires that there be a significant departure from the accepted practices of the relevant research community (i.e. the humanities, social sciences or scientific research community); the misconduct be committed intentionally, or knowingly, or recklessly; and the allegation be proved by a preponderance of evidence.

### **Reporting Misconduct**

Any individual may report suspected research misconduct orally or in writing. Such individual (the complainant) should address the issue, including the name of the subject of the allegation (the respondent) to the Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness. If provided orally a written record of the allegation will be developed.

### **Applicability**

This policy only applies to allegations of fabrication, falsification and/or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research or in research results, and not to any other kind of academic misconduct or dishonesty. This policy applies to all research conducted by faculty, staff, and/or students, regardless of academic discipline and/or sponsor of research. MP18308.4a Integrity in Research and Research Misconduct Procedures will be followed to ensure confidentiality, appropriate inquiry and investigation is warranted and occurs, and as appropriate reporting to regulating agencies and research sponsors occurs.

**Adopted: September, 2016**

**Sponsors: President, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Business Affairs, and Executive Director for Institutional Effectiveness**