

Rule 15.99.03.W1

Ethics in Research, Scholarship and Creative Work: Research Misconduct



Approved: May 9, 2014

Next Scheduled Review: May 9, 2016

Rule Statement

The credibility of academic research, scholarship and creative work depends critically on the integrity with which it is designed, conducted, documented, and communicated. All members of the institutional community at West Texas A&M University, including students, staff, faculty, and administrators share the responsibility for developing and maintaining ethical standards of research and scholarship and detecting abuse of these standards.

Reason for Rule

This rule is required by System Regulation 15.99.03, *Ethics in Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work*, for handling allegations of misconduct in research, scholarship, and creative work at West Texas A&M University.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1. Allegations of Misconduct

- 1.1. Any allegations of misconduct in research, scholarship, or creative work activities should be reported to the Vice President of Research and Compliance, who is the Designated Officer for carrying out the requirements of this Rule and System Regulation 15.99.03.

2. Inquiry and Investigations

- 2.1. An inquiry, based upon a written complaint that is sufficiently credible and specific, may be initiated by the Designated Officer or a committee appointed by the Designated Officer. The inquiry is an assessment of whether the allegation has substance and if the allegation warrants an investigation.

2.2. If an inquiry provides sufficient basis for conducting an investigation, one shall be conducted following the guidelines of System Regulation 15.99.03 and in a manner that ensures fairness and protects the rights of all the parties to the greatest extent possible. An investigation will be conducted by a committee appointed by the Designated Officer. The investigation is a formal examination of relevant facts to determine if misconduct has occurred.

2.3. The written findings, along with any recommended sanctions, will be forwarded to the CEO/designee and the respondent in accordance with the timelines set out in System Regulation 15.99.03.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

42 CFR, Part 50
42 CFR, Part 93
TAMUS Regulation 15.99.03
WTAMU SOP 15.99.03.W1.04AR

Definitions

See “Definitions” in System Regulation 15.99.03

Contact Office

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APPROVAL: 

President/CEO

March 26, 2014
Date