

1.1 Policy on Research Misconduct

Research Misconduct policy is intended to ensure the highest level of integrity and quality in conduct, reporting, and dissemination of research.

Misconduct in research is defined to include any one or more of the following acts:

- Plagiarism in all research-related matters including publications, appropriation of another's person ideas, processes, results, outputs or words without giving appropriate credit
- Inappropriate use of others' intellectual property (without reference or acknowledgment)
- Non-compliance with institutional policies on conflict of interest, intellectual property rights, and authorship guidelines
- Deliberate misuse of institutional or sponsor's funds for financial gains
- Deliberate destruction of one's own or others' research data or records
- Violation (non-compliance) of the code of ethics for research as established by the University.

1.1.1 Reporting of Research Misconduct

- The initial report of the misconduct should be in writing or documentary evidence to the Dean / Director of a specific unit of the University who may direct it to the head of the respective academic department for verification.
- On receiving a report with evidence, the Director ORIC can initiate an investigation by requesting a Dean/Director ORIC set up for this purpose to submit a complete report of findings and advise on penalties, if any to be imposed.

1.1.2 Procedure of Inquiry

- Dean / Director in whose office the allegation charges are files will set up an initial inquiry to assess whether or not the matter is a breach of any of the University's policies of good conduct in research.
- The faculty member whose research or act of violation of research integrity is the subject of the investigation shall be notified about the complaint without disclosing the identity of the initiator.
- An inquiry committee shall be appointed by the Dean ORIC on request of Dean of the concerned department. Joint Committee will submit a written report of inquiry proceedings. All Inquiry proceedings must be recorded and transcribed on paper as well to fulfill legal requirements.
- If dispute remained unresolved then Competent authority (whose decision will be final and binding on all parties) will be consulted.
- If an outside sponsor/collaborator is also involved in research, the report of the inquiry committee should be shared with the concerned organization or individuals
- The whole inquiry process must be completed in 30 calendar days.
- If research misconduct is not proven, diligent efforts will be undertaken where appropriate to restore the reputation of people under investigation.
- Copies of inquiry report, supporting documents, and decision making must be retained by ORIC Director for 5 years.