

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

13 1. This policy statement represents the University of Scranton's commitment to ensuring  
14 adherence to appropriate standards in the conduct of research by its faculty, staff, and students.  
15 Primary responsibility for adherence to standards rests with the individual researcher. However,  
16 the University has an interest in seeing that certain minimal conditions are met in this sphere of  
17 activity.  
18

19 2. This policy statement is formulated to comply with current federal regulations, e.g., from the  
20 Public Health Service (PHS) and the National Science Foundation (NSF), regarding scientific  
21 misconduct. However, this policy applies to all research conducted by members of the  
22 University community under any circumstances and is not restricted to externally funded  
23 research. All researchers should be aware that no actions taken by the University in response to  
24 allegations of misconduct preclude inquiry, investigation, or disciplinary action by a federal  
25 agency. Copies of the misconduct regulations of NSF and PHS are available at the Office of  
26 Research Services.  
27

28 3. This policy statement is based upon and guided by general principles enunciated in the  
29 Framework for Institutional Policies and Procedures to Deal with Fraud in Research (November  
30 4, 1988) developed by the Association of American Universities (AAU), the National Association  
31 of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC), and the Council of Graduate  
32 Schools (CGS). In some instances, wording has been taken directly from these guidelines in  
33 formulating the University's policy statement.  
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4.

1 For purposes of this policy, misconduct is defined as follows:  
2

3 1. Fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, or other practices that seriously deviate from  
4 those that are commonly accepted within the scientific community for proposing,  
5 conducting, or reporting research. It does not include honest error or honest differences  
6 in interpretations or judgment of data.

7 2. Misappropriation of others' ideas, i.e., the unauthorized use of privileged information  
8 (such as violation of confidentiality in peer review), however obtained.

9 3. Failure to meet University and/or federal policies regarding use of human or animal  
10 subjects in research.

11 4. Failure to meet legal requirements governing research.

5.



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

1

2 *Findings*

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