What is Research Misconduct?

- Fabrication
- Falsification
- Plagiarism
Research Misconduct

**Fabrication** is making up data or results and recording or reporting them.

**Falsification** is manipulating research materials, equipment, or processes, or changing or omitting data or results such that the research is not accurately represented in the research record.

**Plagiarism** is the appropriation of another person’s ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit.
Reporting a concern

If you have a concern regarding potential research misconduct:

• Contact the Office for Research Integrity at researchintegrity@northwestern.edu or 312-503-0054

• Contact your supervisor, department chair or dean

OR

• Contact EthicsPoint, either online or by phone

www.researchintegrity.northwestern.edu/research-misconduct
Research Compliance Contacts

To ask a question, receive guidance, or report a violation, contact:

**Export Controls**
Export Controls Compliance
Lane Campbell, Director
lcampbell@northwestern.edu
847-467-4063

**Falsification of Research Effort**
Controller’s Office
Mike Daniels, Director
m-daniels2@northwestern.edu
847-491-4710

**Grant Management**
Sponsored Research
Andrea Zakrzewski, Associate
Director for Grants Management
a-zakrzewski@northwestern.edu
847-467-3495

**Research Misconduct**
Research Integrity
Lauran Qualkenbush, Director
researchintegrity@northwestern.edu
312-503-0054

**Research on Human Subjects**
Institutional Review Board Office
Nathalia Henry, Executive Director
nhenry@northwestern.edu
312-503-9338

**Research on Animals**
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Office
Mandy Kozlowski, Director
m-kozlowski@northwestern.edu
312-503-0109

*Northwestern*
EthicsPoint: A Compliance Hotline

• Compliance Office manages the University’s EthicsPoint hotline

• Any suspected problems will be reviewed according to University procedures

• Policy prohibits retaliatory action against those reporting

• Anonymous
Compliance

The Compliance Office helps the university promote a culture of honest and ethical behavior as well as to identify and manage risk. The Office’s responsibilities include coordinating, encouraging and monitoring the operational compliance activities that occur throughout the University and advising senior administration and the Board of Trustees on the effectiveness of the University’s compliance efforts. The Compliance Office works with operational compliance owners to strategically build and improve their compliance programs and ensure they are responsive to evolving regulatory environments. The Compliance Office also manages the University’s EthicsPoint hotline and coordinates the University’s development and review of policies.
EthicsPoint: A Compliance Hotline

• Report potential misconduct or violations of policy

• File a report online, or call the hotline at 866-294-3545

https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/7325
Penalties for Noncompliance

Institutional:
• Fines and penalties
• Exceptional status
• Funding reduction

Personal:
• Termination
• Disciplinary action
• Criminal/civil sanctions
• Suspension and debarment
• Professional integrity compromised
Recent Examples of the Impact of Noncompliance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Settlement Time Frame</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern University</td>
<td>February 2003</td>
<td>$5.5 million penalty for overstating effort reporting on federal sponsored projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Connecticut</td>
<td>January 2006</td>
<td>$2.5 million penalty for overstating anticipated expenses, overcharging the government, and billing for items not covered by grants, Cost sharing issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornell University’s Weill Medical College</td>
<td>Fall 2007</td>
<td>$2.6 million settlement for a PI failing to disclose on grant applications to the NIH the full extent of various active research projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale University</td>
<td>December 2008</td>
<td>$7.6 million settlement for inadequate documentation of cost transfers and summer salary charges wrongly charged to federal grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dartmouth College</td>
<td>October 2010</td>
<td>$275,000 settlement and $604,000 in contract funds returned to the government for contract pricing and cost recovery issues, lack of compliance with Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), and Conflict of Interest issues.</td>
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</tbody>
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What is the role of University Policies?

Our University policies are meant to guide and enable our community members to uphold Northwestern’s values and expectations.

DEVELOP A POLICY

Any Northwestern school, department, or unit may initiate a new policy.

- Policy Development Guidelines
- New Policy Proposal Template
- Standard Policy Template
- Guidelines for Reviewing Policies
- Policy Development Process Flowchart
- Policy Development FAQs

FIND A POLICY

University Policies on this site include existing policies (searchable by title); newly added policies (adopted within the past year); and policies under review (posted for comment from the Northwestern community).

- University Policies
- Newly Added Policies
- Policies Under Review
- School and Unit Policies
- Standards for Business Conduct
Research Data: Ownership, Retention and Access

- University Policy:  
  http://research.northwestern.edu/sites/research/files/policies/Research_Data.pdf

- Defines “research data”
- Defines University and PI responsibilities
- Transfer to data when researcher leaves institution

- Data retained for minimum of 3 years after the last financial report for the project has been submitted, unless longer periods are required
How can you ensure compliance?

1. Identify resources
2. Understand complex regulations
3. When in doubt, ask
4. Know when and where to ask for help
5. We are all responsible
Questions?

Wow... does this happen often?