

# Responsible Conduct of Research

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- What does it mean?
- It simply means that
  - one is **honest** in his/her academic and research endeavors
  - continually strives to do the **right thing.**
  - you maintain the **best and highest standards** while engaging in research
  - this frame of mind and method for action should carry on all along one's career and **life.**

## Why is RCR important?

- Obvious Reasons:
  - For Graduate student's reputation
  - Scientist's reputation and success
  - For Department's and University's reputation
  - For Graduate student retention and graduation
  - For Continued Funding
  - For Avoiding Emotional stress

# Responsible Conduct of Research topics

1. Roles and Responsibilities
2. Research Misconduct
3. Data Collection and Management
4. Authorship and Publication
5. Intellectual Property
6. Conflict of Interest

- 7. Compliance Requirements
  - Animal welfare
  - Human subjects
  - Hazardous chemicals
  - Radiation and Lasers

# 1. Roles and Responsibilities

- Roles and responsibilities of:
  - Department
    - To provide students with all graduate education policies
  - Faculty Mentor
    - To provide a productive and supportive research environment
    - To provide proper and periodic supervision and review
    - To give specific instructions in laboratory practices, detailed instruction and demonstration of experiments
    - To provide specifics about work hours expectation, lab notebooks, cleanliness in lab

## 1. Roles and Responsibilities

- Of the Graduate students
  - Read and pay attention to all policies and procedures (University/College/Department level) pertaining to your graduate education
    - Eg. “Graduate Education at Purdue”
  - Be efficient in the use of your time, follow all departmental deadlines for various steps towards successful graduation
  - Be respectful and respectable

# 1. Roles and Responsibilities

- Of the Graduate students
  - Honesty in data collecting and interpreting
  - Accuracy, reliability
  - Be knowledgeable and responsible,
  - Get all the required training,
  - Consult statistician early in the project development
  - Pay attention to your advisor,
  - Follow ‘good laboratory practices’
  - Be a good departmental citizen
  - Ask for help, if and when needed

## Responsible Researcher

- You will be entering Graduate Programs soon
- Every University has special RCR requirements/training/programs etc.
- Make sure you take advantage of the RCR programs
- Now let's look at some 'Case studies'

- **onlineethics.org** *The Online Ethics Center for Engineering and Science*
- **Summer Vacation**
- Your roommate, Leslie, has a research assistantship with Professor Open who has made it clear that all her RAs will have two weeks vacation over the summer.
- You and Leslie plan a camping trip and you tell your research supervisor, Professor Tight, of your plans.
- Professor Tight replies that you will do nothing of the sort. He says that just as he works all through the summer, so do all his RAs.
- What, if anything, can you do?

- **onlineethics.org** *The Online Ethics Center for Engineering and Science*
- **Switching Advisors?**
- *by Anila Jahangiri and Caroline Whitbeck*
- You are a RA working in Prof. Taskmaster's lab.
- In the first year at school, you plan to complete your coursework and then focus entirely on your research.
- You hear endless complaints by Prof Taskmaster that you are not working on research and that he is paying for RA
- You would like to leave Professor Taskmaster's lab
- Up to this point, Professor Taskmaster has paid for 18 credits of your coursework and has received back nothing substantial in the form of research work.

- What do you do now?
- How explicit was the agreement you made with Professor Taskmaster when you joined his group? If explicit, what did it say?
- What, if any, are the established procedures and expectations for changing advisors?

## Responsible Conduct of Research

- A very brief introduction has been presented
- It is expected that you will get more on RCR via workshops, courses, on-line training, discussions, etc
- Good Luck and A Happy and Successful Research Career!!!!
- Want to learn more? Visit
- [www.gradschool.purdue.edu/rcr/](http://www.gradschool.purdue.edu/rcr/)