

From: LCOM Office of the Dean <COMOfficeOfTheDean@med.uvm.edu>

Sent: Sunday, November 3, 2019 4:44 PM

To: Gilwee, Vicki M <vicki.gilwee@med.uvm.edu>

Subject: ~ON BEHALF OF DEAN PAGE AND DR. JENSEN - Responsible Conduct of Research

Dear Colleagues:

We wholeheartedly endorse the below communication concerning responsible conduct of research from Richard A. Galbraith, M.D., Ph.D., Vice-President for Research, the University of Vermont, dated October 30, 2019. The **Best Practices** outlined in the attachment are consistent with our Larner College of Medicine Professionalism statement. Adherence to these best practices is the responsibility of the LCOM research community.

We ask that the attached **Best Practices** poster be displayed in all of our LCOM research facilities, including individual laboratories. Our faculty that are engaged in research activities are expected to review these best practices with their research personnel and trainees annually and to assure that these best practices are reviewed with all new personnel and trainees that join their research teams.

Please also [review UVM policies for research misconduct](#).

Thank you,

[Richard L. Page, M.D.](#)

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The University of Vermont

Richard A. Galbraith, MD, PhD

Vice President for Research

October 30, 2019

RE: RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH REMINDER

Faculty Colleagues:

The University of Vermont is committed to fostering and maintaining an environment in which the highest ethical standards are followed in the conduct of research and scholarly activities. The external reputation of UVM is founded not only on the quality and innovation of our research and scholarship, but also on the trust we have earned as an institution emblematic of the highest ethical codes and conduct. The responsibility for maintaining impeccable standards of honesty in the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge rests primarily with the individual faculty members directing the research or scholarly activity, and secondarily with their collaborating undergraduate and graduate students, their postdoctoral associates, and their technical staff.

Please [review the policy, which guides the Responsible Conduct of Research and the procedures and possible serious consequences of research misconduct.](#)

For your convenience, and to serve as a ready reminder of these responsibilities, we have created and attached a poster that outlines the responsibilities and best practices for proper research conduct. Please print and display the poster in any appropriate work space where you, your students and postdocs, and your staff convene to conduct your research or scholarly activity.

Thank you for taking the time to review and share this information.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Galbraith, MD, PhD

Vice President for Research

Responsible Conduct of Research

The University of Vermont is committed to **fostering an environment in which the highest ethical standards in the conduct of research are followed**. The primary responsibility for maintaining such standards of honesty in the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge rests with the faculty, their collaborating staff members, and students. **An individual engaged in research is prohibited from engaging in Research Misconduct. Research Misconduct means fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results.**

Persons found in violation of this policy are subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination and may also be subject to civil or criminal prosecution.

UVM Misconduct in Research Policy V.6.5.5. Effective May 17, 2019.

<https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/UVM-Policies/researchmisconduct.pdf>

Best Practices Checklist for Research at UVM

Research Integrity

- Maintain high standards in own work.
- Understand policies.
- Raise questions and problems promptly and professionally.
- Strive to be a generous and collegial colleague.



Data Handling

- Develop data management and sharing plan at the outset of a project.
- Incorporate appropriate data management expertise in the project team.
- Understand and follow data collection, management, and sharing standards, policies, and follow regulations of the discipline, institution, funder, journal, and relevant government agencies.

Authorship and Communication

- Ensure that general and disciplinary standards are followed for research publications.
- Acknowledge the roles and contributions of authors.
- Be transparent when communicating with all audiences.

Mentoring and Supervision

- Model and instruct on research best practices.
- Check work of those you supervise on a regular basis and ensure adherence to best practices.
- Clarify expectations.

Peer Review

- Provide complete and timely review.
- Maintain confidentiality.
- Disclose conflicts, and eliminate or manage them as appropriate.

Research Compliance

- Protect human subjects and laboratory animals.
- Follow environmental and other safety regulations.
- Do not engage in misuse.
- Disclose and manage all funding sources, financial conflicts of interest, and conflicts of commitment.

*This list was excerpted from a recent report by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, called *Fostering Integrity in Research**