

Responsible Conduct of Research

The University of Houston is committed to supporting responsible and ethical conduct of research and scholarship among its faculty, staff and students. Responsible conduct of research should foster a climate of intellectual honesty and a commitment to ethical responsibilities by academia. All members of the University community share responsibility for developing and maintaining standards to assure ethical conduct of research and detection of abuse of these standards.

Definition and Purpose:

“In general terms, responsible conduct in research is simply good citizenship applied to professional life.

- Researchers who report their work honestly, accurately, efficiently, and objectively are on the right road when it comes to responsible conduct.
- Anyone who is dishonest, knowingly reports inaccurate results, wastes funds, or allows personal bias to influence scientific findings is not.”

<https://ori.hhs.gov/ori-introduction-responsible-conduct-research>

Core Areas of Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)

- Scientist as a responsible member of society
- Conflict of Interest and conflict of commitment
- Human subjects research
- Animal experiments
- Safe laboratory practices
- Mentor/mentee responsibilities and relationships
- Collaborative research
- Peer review
- Data -
 - Acquisition and analysis,
 - Management, sharing and ownership
 - Secure and ethical use
- Research misconduct
- Responsible authorship and publication
- Safe research environments
- Export controls (includes disclosure and reporting requirements)
- Research security risks

Resources

- UH RCR: uh.edu/research/compliance/rcr/
- CITI Training: citiprogram.org
- Gulf Coast Consortia Training: <https://www.gulfcoastconsortia.org/home/research/rigor-reproducibility-resource-page/>

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