

15.99.03.C1

Ethics in Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity



Approved: September 30, 2002
Revised: January 24, 2017
Reviewed: May 15, 2018
Next Scheduled Review: May 15, 2023

Rule Summary

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is responsible for promoting practices that encourage honesty and scientific integrity, and developing a rule(s) for dealing with allegations or other indications of fraud or serious misconduct. This rule addresses allegations of misconduct in research, scholarship, and creative activity at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and applies to both non-sponsored and sponsored activities, regardless of the funding source.

Rule

1. DUTIES OF DESIGNATED OFFICER

The Vice President for Research, Commercialization and Outreach or his/her designee is responsible for the duties described in system regulation 15.99.03, *Ethics in Research, Scholarship and Creative Work*.

2. ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT

Upon receiving an allegation of misconduct in research, scholarship, or creative activity, the Vice President for Research, Commercialization and Outreach or their designee will review and assess the allegation as outlined in system regulation 15.99.03, *Ethics in Research, Scholarship and Creative Work*.

3. INQUIRY, INVESTIGATION, AND ADJUDICATION

3.1. Inquiry

3.1.1. The Vice President for Research, Commercialization and Outreach or

their designee may initiate an inquiry based upon a written complaint alleging information which is sufficiently credible and specific to justify such action.

3.2. Investigation

3.2.1. If the findings of the inquiry provide sufficient basis for conducting an investigation, one shall be undertaken following the process described in system regulation *15.99.03, Ethics in Research, Scholarship and Creative Work*.

3.3. Adjudication

3.3.1. The CEO or their designee shall render a decision in writing no later than 15 business days after the date of receipt of the investigation committee's report of findings in accordance with system regulation *15.99.03, Ethics in Research, Scholarship and Creative Work*.

3.3.2. If the sanction(s) is less than termination or expulsion, the decision of the CEO or their designee shall be final.

3.3.3. If the CEO or their designee chooses to terminate the employment of the respondent, the respondent may request a hearing before the university's committee established in accordance with university procedure *32.01.01.C0.01, Complaint and Appeal Procedure for Faculty Members*, and pursue the available means of appeal following such a hearing, as necessary (in cases where the respondent is a faculty member), or mediation as provided by university procedure *32.01.02.C0.01 Complaint and Appeal Process for Non-Faculty Employees* (in cases where the respondent is a staff member). If the CEO or designee chooses to expel a student respondent, the student respondent may request a hearing in accordance with university procedure *13.02.99.C0.01, Student Complaints Regarding*, or the Student Code of Conduct, as applicable.

Related Statutes, Policies or Requirements

[Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 50](#)

[Title 45 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 689](#)

System Regulation [15.99.03, Ethics in Research, Scholarship and Created Work](#)

University Procedure [13.02.99.C0.01, Student Complaints Regarding Employees](#)

University Procedure [32.01.01.C0.01, Complaint and Appeal Procedure for Faculty Members](#)

University Procedure [32.01.02.C0.01, Complaint and Appeal Process for Non-Faculty Employees](#)

Appendix

[Research Misconduct Standard Operating Procedures \(SOP\)](#)

[Student Code of Conduct](#)

Contact Office

Contact for interpretation and clarification: Vice President for Research,
Commercialization and Outreach
(361) 825-3881