

UNSW



DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH)

**RESEARCH BULLETIN #16
UNSW CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESEARCH
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(RESEARCH)

Dear Colleagues,

This is DVC(R) Bulletin #16 to provide an update on important issues affecting researchers at UNSW. If you missed the previous bulletins – the contents are available at <http://www.dvcresearch.unsw.edu.au/newsletter.html>.

This Bulletin is confined to a single topic – The **UNSW Research Code of Conduct**. The new UNSW Research Code of Conduct reflects changes in the Joint NHMRC/ARC/Universities Australia *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research* which was introduced in 2008.

1. THE UNSW RESEARCH CODE OF CONDUCT

On 27th April, the UNSW Council approved a new UNSW Research Code of Conduct and the procedures associated with it. When it comes to Research, our reputation relies on the highest standards of professionalism and this new Code sets out the standards we expect in the responsible practice of research.

While the new “UNSW Research Code of Conduct” covers much of the same “common-sense” ground that was covered under our previous “Code of Conduct for the Responsible Practice of Research”, **there are some substantial differences**. In particular, there are significant changes to:

- (i) the criteria which define who are valid authors on publications;
- (ii) the requirements for storage of data underpinning research;
- (iii) the definition of research misconduct and how we deal with instances of research misconduct; and
- (iv) the need for UNSW to have identified advisors on research integrity throughout the University.

The new UNSW Research Code of Conduct is effective immediately and is broken into 4 parts:

a. The UNSW Research Code of Conduct itself

This spells out how our researchers must conduct their activities in an ethical and professional manner, ensuring validity and accuracy in the collection and reporting of data. This Code applies to all researchers at UNSW, including research students as well as visiting and conjoint staff.

Copies of the UNSW Research Code of Conduct are available on the UNSW policy website in both htm and pdf formats at:

http://www.policy.unsw.edu.au/policy/research_code_of_conduct.htm
http://www.policy.unsw.edu.au/policy/research_code_of_conduct.pdf

b. Issues of Authorship

The second part outlines the procedures for dealing with issues of authorship and how disputes

between authors are resolved.

Copies of the Procedure for Authorship and for Resolving Disputes between Authors are available on the UNSW policy website in both htm and pdf formats at:

<http://www.policy.unsw.edu.au/procedure/authorship.htm>

<http://www.policy.unsw.edu.au/procedure/authorship.pdf>

The new Code requires a formal Statement of Authorship form to be submitted to the library each time a work is submitted for publication. The form is a declaration of who are the legitimate authors of the work and where the original data underpinning the publication are located.

Copies of the Statement of Authorship and Location of Data Form are available at:

http://www.policy.unsw.edu.au/procedure/authorship_statement_form.rtf

c. Record keeping and the retention of research data and material

The third part outlines the procedures around record keeping and the requirement to retain and store research data and materials.

Copies of the Procedure for Handling Research Material and Data are available on the UNSW policy website in both htm and pdf formats at:

http://www.policy.unsw.edu.au/procedure/handling_research_material_and_data.htm

http://www.policy.unsw.edu.au/procedure/handling_research_material_and_data.pdf

d. Allegations of Research Misconduct

The fourth part deals with how the University handles allegations of research misconduct.

Copies of the Procedure for Handling Allegations of Research Misconduct are available on the UNSW policy website in both htm and pdf formats at:

http://www.policy.unsw.edu.au/procedure/handling_allegations_of_research_misconduct.htm

http://www.policy.unsw.edu.au/procedure/handling_allegations_of_research_misconduct.pdf

2. ALL STAFF FORUMS

I will conduct two open forums to discuss the new UNSW Research Code of Conduct for all staff and students who are involved with research at UNSW. These will be held on:

Wednesday 27th May, 12.30pm – 2:00pm, Room G41, Old Main Building.

Thursday, 11th June, 12:30pm – 2:00pm, Central Lecture Block 8.

These forums will provide an opportunity discuss any aspects of the Code that any researcher at UNSW would care to bring up and I look forward to seeing you there.

**Professor Les Field
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)**