

Responsible Conduct in Research (RCR) and Academic Honesty

Scientific Integrity

Axel Drees, August 2021

The Bigger Picture for You:

- You are entering a new stage of your career:
 - You are entering graduate school and strive to become a scientist
- What is necessary to become a scientist?
 - Acquire the skills and knowledge necessary
 - Knowledge and skills are insufficient
 - **Scientific integrity!!!**

Useful material

National Academy Press: "On Being a Scientist"

<https://www.nap.edu/catalog/12192/on-being-a-scientist-a-guide-to-responsible-conduct-in>

Scientific Integrity*

- Principle of scientific thought → utter honesty
- Many behaviors commonly accepted in today's societies are inconsistent with scientific integrity
 - Cheating/lying (on tests or in any other way)
 - Misrepresenting/omitting facts to your own (agendas) advantage
 - etc
- There is no room for these behaviors in your professional life
- If you are honest with yourself it is easy to be honest with others and have scientific integrity

Department procedures to address academic misconduct, i.e. violations/lack of scientific integrity

- In class room settings: cheating on exams, copying lab reports etc..
 - As TA: report any cases of academic dishonesty to the course instructor. All cases are reported to University Academic Judiciary. The University has detailed procedures in place to handle these cases:
http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic_integrity
 - As student: if you are accused of academic dishonesty the course instructor will recommend action, typically zero grade on exam/project or failure of course. You can appeal to Chair/Grad Director and request a hearing by the department
- Misconduct in research: All cases need to be reported to Chair/Grad Director
 - This is true if you are accused or if you accuse someone else, including fellow student, postdocs or faculty
 - Department will decide appropriate action