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Updates on the Project for Scholarly Integrity

EMORY AND UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA HOST PSI SITE VISITS

As reported in the [June Newsletter](#), an important feature of the [Project for Scholarly Integrity](#) is a series of site visits to universities that have received PSI awards. The visits provide an opportunity for project leaders to reflect on and discuss strategies for strengthening scholarly integrity at their institutions, and for CGS staff to gain a deeper understanding of their progress steps and ongoing challenges. Highlights of the August site visits, listed in chronological order, are summarized below. We would like to thank Melissa Gilstrap, Program Associate at Emory University's Laney Graduate School, and Tina Tarin, Training Coordinator in the Office for the Responsible Conduct of Research at the UA, for coordinating excellent visits to their universities.

Emory University

[Emory University](#) project leaders invited Dr. Douglas James, Assistant Dean for [Academic](#) Affairs at the Duke University Graduate School, to join CGS staff, Dr. Daniel Denecke and Dr. Julia Kent, for the August 11 visit. In addition to overseeing a wide range of academic programs at Duke, Dr. James coordinates Duke's mandatory academic training in RCR for all graduate students and has been involved in Duke's current activities as a PSI Affiliate. [Duke](#) was an Awardee for [the first ORI-funded RCR Initiative coordinated by CGS](#).

Two of the central goals of Emory's PSI project are to integrate research ethics education into all graduate programs and to ensure that pedagogies used in training programs help students to reflect critically on complex issues of professional integrity. The site visit highlighted the university's progress toward achieving these goals through communication and coordination with different groups on campus.

Site visitors first attended a meeting with the Program Working Group, a multi-disciplinary faculty committee that has been discussing different models for the integration of research ethics education into graduate curricula. Dr. Lisa Tedesco, Dean of the Laney Graduate School, Dr. Mark Risjord, Associate Dean and Dr. Michelle Lampl, Samuel C. Dobbs Professor of Anthropology, led a discussion of key priorities, such as ensuring that training is discipline-specific and complemented by strong mentorship.

In the afternoon, site visitors and project leaders met with staff at the Emory Center for Ethics to discuss opportunities to partner with the Center in areas of programming and resources to develop research ethics education programs. Discussion focused on ways to make sure that training courses provide knowledge of regulatory standards and skills of ethical deliberation and leave graduate students with greater confidence about facing the challenges of interdisciplinary research.

During the 2010-2011 school year, the Laney Graduate School will be working with graduate programs to develop appropriate strategies for teaching and mentoring scholarly integrity. Dean Tedesco emphasized that "This work continues as a priority area for graduate student professional development in the Laney Graduate School, and is vitally important to their long-term success whether in the academy or on pathways beyond."

University of Arizona

The August 25 site visit to the [University of Arizona](#) featured a range of programs and resources developed through the university's PSI award. Meetings with students, faculty, and senior administrators focused on the outcomes of current project activities, which will be used to shape the university's long-term strategy for expanding research integrity education within graduate programs.

The day began with a visit to Arizona's Tree-Ring Laboratory and a meeting with the lab's curator, Dr. Pearce Paul Creasman, a recipient of one of Arizona's [mini-grants for Research Integrity](#). Dr. Creasman shared curricular materials used in his grant-funded graduate seminar on the Responsible Preservation of Scientific Material and discussed the challenges of making instruction relevant to the various disciplines in which a student may be conducting research. Later in the afternoon, site visitors met with several of the students who had received mini-grants to develop curricular content for research integrity education in their fields. The [Office for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#) will be integrating materials from the modules and courses developed through the mini-grants program into UA's course management system, which is open to the UA community, and through the [UA YouTube Channel](#), which is open to the public.

Site visitors also learned about the perspectives of faculty and staff involved in developing broad-scale training programs and resources for graduate students, including the Graduate Certificate in Responsible Conduct of

Research. Dr. Cindy Rankin, Research Integrity Officer, Dr. Jeanette Hoyt, Professor of Speech, Language and Hearing, Dr. Sallie Marston, Professor of Geography and Development, Dr. Sheryl Wurl, Director of the Human Subjects Protection Program, and Dr. Dianne Horgan, Associate Dean of the Graduate College discussed challenges faced within their offices and departments and offered suggestions for developing new resources on campus.

Arizona's project leaders, Dr. Andrew Comrie, Dean of the Graduate College and Dr. Elizabeth Boyd, Assistant Vice President for Research Compliance and Policy, provided comments throughout the visit on project activities. The Graduate School is now assessing the outcomes of some of these activities, including participant feedback on UA's [Research Integrity Days conference](#), to plan future activities and strategies to engage the entire campus in RCR education.

"This grant was perfectly timed to catalyze integration of graduate research integrity education with a reorganized and higher profile office overseeing responsible research conduct on our campus," said Dr. Comrie. Dr. Boyd added, "We are delighted that the grant seeded an outstanding collaboration between our units that extends across campus, well beyond the core activities of our project."

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON HOLDS ETHICS FORUM

The [University of Wisconsin-Madison](#) is a member of the three-university consortium including [Michigan State University](#) and [Penn State University](#) that shares a single PSI award to conduct a common assessment of their institutional climates for research integrity and to implement individual activities on each of the three campuses. On September 20, the University of Wisconsin used the results of its survey of 119 graduate programs to launch a discussion of the ethical challenges of research. The [forum](#) was led by a panel of department chairs from three different departments, including Dr. James Wells, Chemistry Department chair and Director of the Office of Research Policy, who with Dr. Eileen Callahan, Director of Graduate School Professional Development, has played a lead role on the consortium's survey research project. A more detailed description of the consortium's joint assessment effort can be found in the [April 2010 PSI Newsletter](#).

National and International News

SINGAPORE STATEMENT ON RESEARCH INTEGRITY RELEASED

Held in July 2010, the [2nd World Conference on Research Integrity](#), an international conference for researchers, funders, representatives of universities and research institutes, and publishers, sought to produce a set of consensus points to guide international policies and codes of conduct. The resulting document was based on contributions from 340 conference

participants from 51 countries who were given the opportunity to review and comment on a set of draft principles. The final communiqué has been made public as the [Singapore Statement on Research Integrity](#), and according to the official conference website, "is intended to make it easier for others to provide the leadership needed to promote integrity in research on a global basis [...]."

The Singapore Statement is grounded in four principles that preface a more specific set of responsibilities for researchers, research institutions, journals, professional organizations, and agencies involved in research: "Honesty in all aspects of research"; "Accountability in the conduct of research"; "Professional courtesy and fairness in working with others"; and "Good stewardship of research on behalf of others." The fourteen responsibilities described in the statement cover topics ranging from research methods, authorship, the reporting of irresponsible research practices, and the recognition of societal impacts of research.

The preamble to the Singapore Statement indicates that the consensus points reflect commonalities that should guide research practice in all countries, notwithstanding differences between national research environments: "While there can be and are national and disciplinary differences in the way research is organized and conducted, there are also principles and professional responsibilities that are fundamental to the integrity of research wherever it is undertaken."

Upcoming Events

APPE'S RCR EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE TO HOLD SEMINAR

The Responsible Conduct of Research Educational Committee (RCREC), a subcommittee of the board of the [Association for Practical and Professional Ethics \(APPE\)](#), will hold a seminar in conjunction with APPE's 20th Anniversary Annual Meeting in Cleveland from March 3-6, 2011. The seminar aims to explore collaborative responses to challenges in RCR education following the NSF and NIH guidelines and will assemble a number of different groups: the RCREC committee members and institutional members, members of the Association's Ethics Center, former participants in APPE's NSF-funded Graduate Research Ethics Education program, and representatives of the Ethics across the Curriculum Movement.

Panel topics for the seminar are listed below:

Panel 1: "Challenges of Research Ethics Education in the University: The view from University Offices of Research."

Panel 2: "Collaborative Possibilities between Ethics Centers, Ethics across the Curriculum Programs, University Offices of Research"

Panel 3: "Research Ethics Education in the University: The View from Early Career Faculty."

Panel 4: "Special Focus: Research Ethics Education in the Social Sciences."

Please click [here](#) to view the agenda for the March 3 seminar. Information about APPE conference registration can be found on [APPE's website](#); the deadline for Early Bird registration is November 28, 2010.

If you would like to suggest an event, activity, or news item for inclusion in the PSI Newsletter, please contact Julia Kent at the address below. For more information about the Project for Scholarly Integrity, please contact:

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