Statement of Principles for Research Integrity

Preamble

The Responsible Conduct of Research is at the very essence of the scientific enterprise and is intrinsic to society's trust in science. Within the framework of the Responsible Conduct of Research, the basic principles of Research Integrity - namely honesty, responsibility, fairness and accountability – are enshrined in foundational documents [1] that also describe the responsibilities of researchers and the scientific community.

While researchers and institutions themselves remain ultimately responsible for undertaking research with integrity, research funding agencies have an obligation to ensure that the research they support is conducted in accordance with the highest standards possible. To that end, participants in the 2nd Annual Meeting of the Global Research Council recognize the following Principles to articulate the responsibilities of research funding agencies in creating an international environment in which research integrity is at the core of all activities.

Principles

Leadership
Research funding agencies must lead by example in the responsible management of research programs.

Promotion
Research funding agencies should encourage institutions to develop and implement policies and systems to promote integrity in all aspects of the research enterprise.

Education
Research funding agencies should promote continual training in research integrity, and develop initiatives to educate all researchers and students on the importance of research integrity.

Transparent Processes
Research funding agencies should, within the scope of their mandate, publish policies and procedures to promote research integrity and to address allegations of research misconduct.

Response to Allegations of Misconduct
During any investigation of misconduct [2], research funding agencies should support a process that values accountability, timeliness and fairness.

Conditions for Research Support
Research funding agencies should incorporate integrity in research as a condition for obtaining and maintaining funding by researchers and institutions.

International Cooperation
Research funding agencies will work cooperatively with partners to support and facilitate research integrity worldwide.

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[1] For example: the Singapore Statement, the InterAcademy Council IAP Policy Report, and the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity.

[2] Breaches of research integrity can include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, fabrication and falsification.