

Policy for Dealing with Allegations of Research Misconduct

Definition of Research Misconduct

"Misconduct" or "scientific misconduct" is taken here to mean fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, or other practices that seriously deviate from those that are commonly accepted within the scientific community for proposing, conducting, or reporting research. It includes the misleading ascription of authorship including the listing of authors without their permission, attributing work to others who have not in fact contributed to the research, and the lack of appropriate acknowledgement of work primarily produced by a research student/trainee or associate. Examples of research misconduct include, but are not limited to, the following. It does not include honest errors or honest differences in interpretation or judgements of data.

Misappropriation

A researcher or reviewer shall not intentionally or recklessly:

1. Engage in plagiarism, which shall be understood to mean the presentation of the documentation words or ideas of another as his or her own, without attribution appropriate for the medium of presentation
2. Make use of any information in breach of any duty of confidentiality associated with the review of any manuscript or grant application
3. Intentionally omit reference to the relevant published work of others for the purpose of inferring personal discovery of new information.

Interference

A researcher or reviewer shall not intentionally and without authorisation take or sequester or materially damage any research-related property of another, including, but not limited to the 2 apparatus, reagents, biological materials, writings, data, hardware, software, or any other substance or device used or produced in the conduct of research.

Misrepresentation

A researcher or reviewer shall not with intent to deceive, or in reckless disregard for the truth:

- state or present a material or significant falsehood
- omit a fact so that what is stated or presented as a whole states or presents a material or significant falsehood.

Notification of an Allegation of Research Misconduct

The allegation must be made in writing and submitted by the Complainant to Editor-in-Chief of journal where research misconduct was found, who will refer the matter to the University of Lodz authorities. The Complainant should include with the allegation any evidence to support it as they consider appropriate.