

# WANT TO BECOME R.I.CH. FAST?

18 October 2017 – VCWI

# WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

Good  
Research  
Practices

Questionable  
Research  
Practices

Fabrication  
Falsification  
Plagiarism



'ideal'

sloppy

unconscious bias

conscious bias

falsification

fabrication

# 'CODE OF ETHICS FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN BELGIUM'

- °2008
- Signed by all universities
- Basic values for all disciplines  
rigour and caution, reliability and verifiability,  
independence and impartiality
- Added value in practice?



# 'EUROPEAN CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESEARCH INTEGRITY – ALLEA CODE'

- °2011 jointly with the European Science Foundation (ESF) – revision 2017
- European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities
- Framework for self-regulation across all scientific and scholarly disciplines and for all research settings



These principles are:

- **Reliability** in ensuring the quality of research, reflected in the design, the methodology, the analysis and the use of resources.
- **Honesty** in developing, undertaking, reviewing, reporting and communicating research in a transparent, fair, full and unbiased way.
- **Respect** for colleagues, research, participants, society, ecosystems, cultural heritage and the environment.
- **Accountability** for the research from idea to publication, for its management and organisation, for training, supervision and mentoring, and for its wider impacts.

# POLICY PLANS AND CHARTERS



200 YEARS  
GHENT UNIVERSITY

EDUCATION RESEARCH FACILITIES WORKING AT UGENT LIVING IN GHENT ABOUT US INFORMATION FOR

Home > Research > Doctoral research > Charter for doctoral students and supervisors

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 -> Agreements/planning  
 -> Monitoring/publication/valorisation  
 -> Examination/career

## Charter for doctoral students and supervisors


The charter is in line with the prevailing Ghent University regulations and policy plans, and observes the principles included in the [European Charter for Researchers](#) (European Commission, 2005).  
 Drafted on the initiative of the [Doctoral Schools Steering Committee](#), the charter is based on the good practice guidelines derived from a broad stakeholder consultation at Ghent University.  
 The commitments included in the charter are not legally binding (except for those that are a translation of legal or other regulations).

### Introduction

The **relationship between doctoral students and supervisors** is subject to the **provisions of**:

- > the Ghent University Labour Regulations
- > the applicable directives of the funding bodies
- > the Regulations concerning UGent PhD scholarships (with regard to recipients of Dehousse scholarships, see article 1 of the relevant regulations)
- > the Education and Examination Code of Ghent University and its faculty additions.

The academic framework and the supervisors in particular create the **scientific environment** needed to successfully conduct doctoral research. Doctoral students in turn affirm commitment to [integrity in research](#) and deliver results which benefit both Ghent University as well as themselves. The prerequisites for achieving this are **reciprocity** as well as healthy working conditions which also take into account [workplace well-being](#). Open communication and a willingness of both parties to reach a constructive solution in case of conflict are **essential**.  
 This **charter relates to all kinds of collaboration** involving a doctoral student, his/her supervisor(s) and the [doctoral advisory committee](#) (DAC, if appointed), and the chairman of the department to which the doctoral student is affiliated, or to which the main supervisor is affiliated if the doctoral student is not on the payroll of



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Home > Research > For staff > Research policy and organisation > Research integrity

On this page  
 -> Policy at Ghent University  
 -> Toolbox  
 -> What to do in case you suspect fraud or research misconduct?  
 -> Research Integrity worldwide  
 -> Contact

## Research integrity

Scientific research is legitimated by the quality of its execution. Different stakeholders (citizens, government, industry, social milieu, ...) count on scientific research for objective and nuanced knowledge accumulation of the highest quality. As one of the leading research institutions, Ghent University puts in efforts every day to maintain, improve and refine the quality demands of research. Therefore **quality assessment** is pivotal. Research integrity is an important element of this quality assessment. The institutional policy plan offers a framework for maintaining and improving integrity in daily research practice.

### Policy at Ghent University

Ghent University sets great store by adopting a **preventive two-track policy** aimed at:

1. Encouraging 'Good Research Practices' which improve the quality for the individual researcher, research and the research environment in general.
2. Improving the overall quality culture by adopting a research policy that pursues excellence while striking the necessary balances in order to guarantee the continuity of dynamic, ever innovative research.

Recent fraud cases all over the world have shown the need for a **repressive trajectory as an ultimatum remedium**. The University has put the necessary procedures and mechanisms in place to act against researchers violating research integrity and to impose appropriate measures. It is the individual responsibility of all those involved in education and research to act with due academic integrity. Ghent University extends its monitoring duty by engaging in an institution wide [Policy Plan on Research Integrity](#).

- > 4 Core elements
- > Goals
- > Working group



University of Antwerp

# Antwerp Doctoral School

Department of Research Affairs & Innovation

Doctoral study programme | Information for supervisor | Calendar

Infossessions & Training | Calls | Funding | Policy & Regulations | Publishing & Data | Valorisation | About us

You are here: > Antwerp Doctoral School > Doctoral study programme > PhD from A to Z > Rules and regulations

Start > Mijn Subsites > Department of Research Affairs & Innovation > Policy & Regulations > Scientific Integrity

### Doctoral study programme

- > Courses
- > Educational credit
- > Progress report
- > PhD from A to Z
- > Procedure of a PhD

### Doctoral regulations

- Rules and regulations (for all PhD students)

Additional regulations for your faculty / institute:

- Additional faculty regulations for Pharmaceutical, Biomedical (0.2014) and V Sciences (FR 02.10.2014) (pdf, 65 kb)
- Additional faculty regulations for Medicine and Health Science (FR 16.10.2014)
- Additional institutional regulations for the Institute of Developmental Medicine

### Policy & Regulations

- > Ethics Screening
- > Scientific Integrity
- > Research Evaluations
- > Peoplesoft Research Information System
- > Antigon

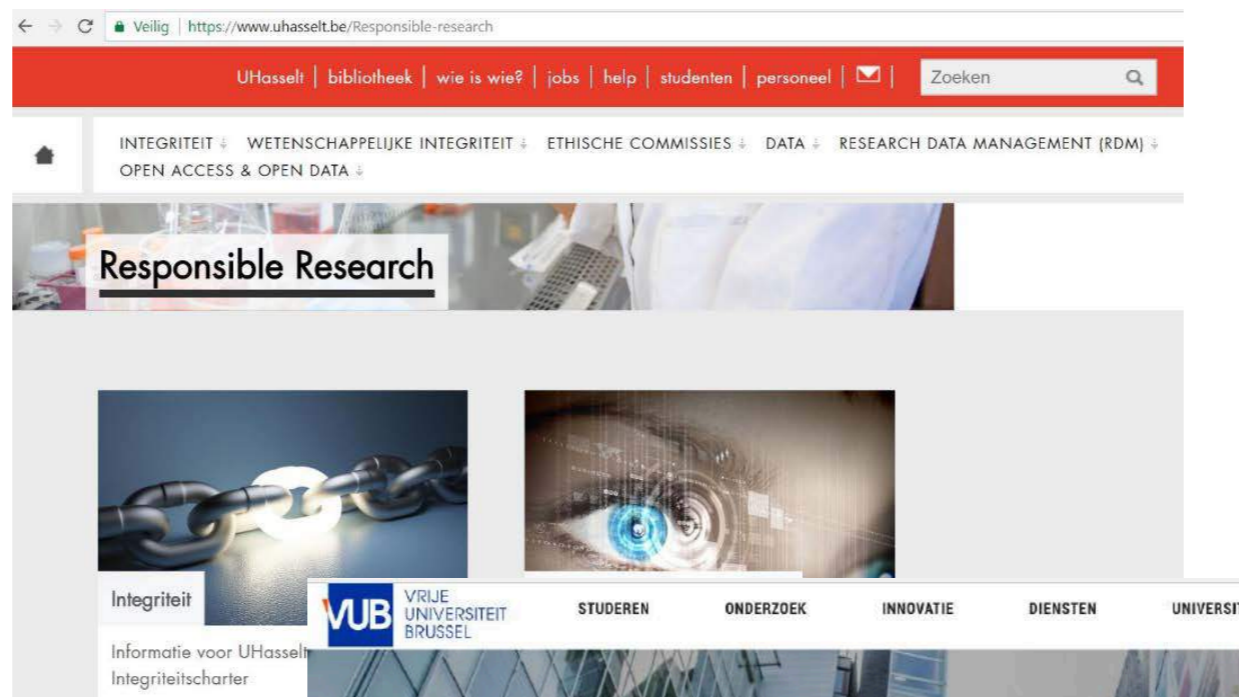
### Scientific Integrity (CWI)

The importance of scientific integrity has not only been increasing rapidly on the Flemish level, but within the worldwide research community as well. For this reason, the University of Antwerp is very much committed to **inform researchers about the possible pitfalls of scientific conduct**. Moreover, since 2009 the university offers a set of **guidelines for scientific integrity** and it also endorses 'the **European Code of Research Integrity**', issued in 2010 by the European Academies.

### Contact

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Contact Point



UHasselt | bibliotheek | wie is wie? | jobs | help | studenten | personeel | Zoeken

INTEGRITEIT | WETENSCHAPPELIJKE INTEGRITEIT | ETHISCHE COMMISSIES | DATA | RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT (RDM) | OPEN ACCESS & OPEN DATA


## Responsible Research

Integriteit

Informatie voor UHasselt Integriteitscharter

VUB VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL

STUDEREN ONDERZOEK INNOVATIE DIENSTEN UNIVERSITEIT



KU LEUVEN

RESEARCH INTEGRITY

At KU Leuven, the following principles in the scope of good practices deserve most attention:

SUPERVISION AND MENTORING

READ MORE



AUTHORSHIP

READ MORE



# ETHIEK EN INTEGRITEIT

# COMMISSION FOR RESEARCH INTEGRITY (CWI)

- In every university
- Small differences in procedure and composition
- First line advice (in/out of CWI scope, central/local)
- Mediation
- Formal procedure
- RIO of Flemish universities



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**Ann Peters**  
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LET'S PLAY A GAME!

# RCR TRAINING

## Good practice:

- Small groups
- Interactive
- Focus on developing skills not transferring knowledge

## Reality check – FRCR@UGent

- Small reach (max. 16 participants, 4x per year)
- (too) big investment time/staff/means (1year development, 4 trainers, train-the-trainer, ...)

Worth it? Yes, but...



# DILEMMA GAME (ERASMUS U ROTTERDAM)



# HAVE YOU ALREADY ATTENDED SOME KIND OF RCR TRAINING?

- A. Yes
- B. No

# ISSUE #1 – AUTHORSHIP

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# FREE LUNCH?

I am starting my PhD project and as a first task I am asked to rewrite a paper by a former PhD colleague who has meanwhile left academia. I notice the paper needs only small changes and the reviewers are very mild and friendly, so the paper may get accepted in the next round. My professor suggests putting me as last author, to support my academic career, despite my limited contribution to the actual research process. He will be the first author. The former PhD has agreed that others can use his work, but no specific agreements were made.

# WHAT WOULD BE YOUR OPTION?

- A. I agree to the offer and get listed as last author.
- B. I suggest that I should be mentioned in a footnote, but not listed as author.
- C. I contact the former PhD and ask him whether he wants the publication in his name.
- D. I decline the revising job; I do not want to be involved.

# WHAT DOES THE CODE SAY?

## BE-code:

- *only those who have actually contributed to the research may be mentioned as (co-) authors.*

## EU-code:

- *All authors agree on the **sequence of authorship**, acknowledging that authorship itself is based on a **significant contribution** to the **design** of the research, relevant **data collection**, or the **analysis or interpretation** of the results.*
- *Authors **acknowledge important work and intellectual contributions** of others, including collaborators, assistants, and funders, who have influenced the reported research in appropriate form, and cite related work correctly*
- *All authors are **fully responsible for the content** of a publication, unless otherwise specified.*

# TIPS ON AUTHORSHIP



EDUCATION [RESEARCH](#) FACILITIES ABOUT THE FACULTY CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ▼

[Home](#) > [Research](#) > [Publications](#) > Authorship on scientific publications at the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering

## Authorship on scientific publications at the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering

At the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering research is being conducted in numerous varying research disciplines. Most of these disciplines have their own specific customs and rules concerning authorship on scientific publications. These are mostly internationally recognized practices, univ

Notwithstanding this diversity of discipline specific rules and practices, at the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering a number of fu arrangements are being complied with concerning authorship on scientific publications:

→ within the research units there is an open communication culture on authorship on publications between supervisors, doct in research activities;

 SEARCH

Recommendations

Conflicts of Interest

Journals

Following the ICMJE Recommendations

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### Defining the Role of Authors and Contributors



# ISSUE #2 – RESEARCH PROPOSALS



# FREE DINNER

I am starting my PhD project and as a first task I am asked to rewrite a project proposal by a former PhD colleague who went to another institution. I notice the proposal needs only small updates and the grant review commission was very mild and friendly when they motivated their rejection. So next call, the proposal has a good chance of getting selected. My professor suggests submitting the proposal with his name as promotor and mine as researcher, despite no actual contribution to the design of the proposal. The former PhD has agreed that others can use his work, but no specific agreements were made.

# WHAT WOULD BE YOUR OPTION?

- A. I agree to the offer and submit the proposal with my promotor and myself as researcher.
- B. I suggest that the promotor should contact the former PhD since he came up with the proposal.
- C. I contact the former PhD and ask him if he agrees I use the proposal.
- D. I decline the revising job; I do not want to be involved. If I'm going for external financing, it will be with my own proposal.

# WHAT DOES VCWI SAY?

- *Plagiarism in project applications is an **important problem**, on the one hand, from the perspective of **research integrity** (misappropriation is unfair) and, on the other hand, because of the risk of “**duplicate funding**” (receiving funding for the same research from multiple sources, which goes against the efficient use of research funds).*
- *There are **no established rules** about **how to describe the contribution** of other researchers in the development of an application, contrary to what is the case with scientific publications. There are also no clear rules on **how to clarify overlap** between one’s own application and other applications (for example, in case of resubmission of the same application).*
- *One can conclude that **plagiarism** has taken place if (1) there is **significant overlap** between the current application and an application by another researcher, and (2) it is clear from the description of the contributions to both applications that the **overlapping part was not developed by the applicant** of the current application, and (3) the current applicant in **no other way indicates** that the **overlapping part was developed by others**.*

# ISSUE #3 – PLAGIARISM

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# SIMILAR BUT NOT THE SAME

A close friend asks me to comment on his paper. While reading the paper I detect a great number of similarities with some recently published papers. The similarities do not constitute plagiarism in a literal sense, but are noticeable. When confronting my friend with my findings he seems unimpressed and submits his paper to an international journal without any profound changes. A couple of weeks later I receive the request from the journal to act as a referee on this particular paper.

# WHAT WOULD BE YOUR OPTION?

- A. I decline the invitation.
- B. I accept the invitation but in my review do not mention the similarities I noticed before.
- C. I accept the invitation and report the similarities.
- D. I ask my friend what he wants me to do.

# WHAT DOES THE CODE SAY?

## BE-code:

- *Researchers may not present fieldwork, data and results obtained by other researchers as their own; they must not plagiarise other people's publications.*
- *By participating in peer review, the researcher should only be guided by considerations of a scientific order.*

## EU-code:

- *Authors **acknowledge** important work and intellectual contributions of others, including collaborators, assistants, and funders, who have influenced the reported research in appropriate form, and **cite** related work correctly.*
- *Researchers **take seriously** their commitment to the research community by participating in **refereeing, reviewing and evaluation**.*
- *Researchers review and evaluate submissions for publication, funding, appointment, promotion or reward **in a transparent and justifiable manner**.*
- *Reviewers or editors with a **conflict of interest withdraw from involvement** in decisions on publication, funding, appointment, promotion or reward.*
- ***Ignoring** putative **violations** of research integrity by others or **covering up** inappropriate responses to misconduct or other violations by institutions is considered **misconduct**.*

# CHECK PLAGIARISM DEFINITION

**Plagiarism is any identical or lightly-altered use of one's own or someone else's work (ideas, texts, structures, images, plans, etc.) without adequate reference to the source.**

- The **literal** or near-literal use of someone else's text(s) (or parts of these) irrespective of the source (including digital sources, whether or not through the internet) without indicating a citation (for example, through quotation marks) and/or without adequate reference to the source
- **Copying** images, diagrams, graphics, figures, sound or image fragments, etc., without adequate reference to the source
- **Paraphrasing** someone else's arguments without adequate reference to the source
- **Translating** texts without adequate reference to the source

## **2 special forms**

- Commissioning or having papers revised (whether or not for pay), and passing this off as one's own work (**ghost writing**)
- The re-use of one's own work and passing it off as a new paper (**self-plagiarism**)

Source: KU Leuven



# ISSUE #4 – DEALING WITH DATA

# FINAL CHECKS

After years of hard work my paper is now at an advanced stage of the reviewing process with a leading journal. The referee has asked me to carry out a number of robustness checks. It turns out that my main result disappears in one of the robustness checks. This is also the check that I find irrelevant for the type of work I have performed.

# WHAT WOULD BE YOUR OPTION?

- A. I simply report the robustness check, at the risk of having my paper rejected.
- B. I point out that while my main result is not 100% robust, in empirical work a result that shows up in the vast majority of my analyses is still meaningful. In fact, with a 95% confidence level I would expect my result to disappear in 5% of the analyses.
- C. I present the referee with a number of arguments to point out why this particular robustness check does not make sense.
- D. I figure out that my main result remains intact with a slightly different interpretation of the robustness check and report that the test was successful.

# WHAT DOES THE CODE SAY?

## BE-code:

- *Sampling, analysis techniques and statistical methods should not be chosen or manipulated with a view to obtaining or justifying a result defined in advance.*

## EU-code:

- *Authors and publishers consider **negative results to be as valid as positive** findings for publication and dissemination.*
- *Researchers design, carry out, analyse and document research in a careful and **well-considered manner**.*
- *Researchers publish results and interpretations of research in an open, honest, transparent and **accurate manner**, and respect confidentiality of data or findings when legitimately required to do so.*
- *Researchers report their results in a way that is **compatible with the standards of the discipline** and, where applicable, **can be verified and reproduced**.*
- *Withholding research results is considered **misconduct**.*
- *Researchers, research institutions and organisations ensure access to data is as open as possible, as closed as necessary, and where appropriate in line with the FAIR Principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Re-usable) for data management.*

# MAKE A DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN (DMP)

Templates and tool: [DMPOnline.be](https://dmponline.be) - [DMPOnline.kuleuven.be](https://dmponline.kuleuven.be)

The image shows two overlapping screenshots of DMPOnline websites. The top screenshot is for DMPOnline.be, featuring a grey header with the logo 'DMP ONLINE .BE' and navigation buttons for 'Home', 'About', and 'Help'. The main content area includes a 'Welcome.' message, a description of the service provided by the DMPonline.be Consortium, and a list of founding institutions: Instituut voor Natuur- en Bosonderzoek, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Universiteit Antwerpen, Universiteit Gent, Universiteit Hasselt, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, and Wetenschappelijk Instituut Volksgezondheid – Institut Scientifique de Santé Publique. A 'Sign in' box is overlaid on the right, prompting users to sign in with their institutional account, with a link for 'Sign in with UGent'. The bottom screenshot is for DMPOnline.kuleuven.be, featuring a similar layout but with a blue header and navigation buttons. It includes a 'Welcome' message and a description of the service provided by KU Leuven to help write data management plans, developed by the Digital Curation Centre. A 'Sign in' box is overlaid on the right, featuring the 'KU LEUVEN' logo and a button for 'Sign in with your KU Leuven central login credentials'. Below this, there is a section for 'External users' with a plus sign.

# ISSUE #5 – STRATEGY

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# SENSITIVE RESULTS

A brilliant Master student approaches me to ask if he can write a PhD dissertation on whether and to which extent a specific oil company is contributing to the development of a particular country and respecting international and African human rights treaties. However, the oil company is a major funder of a lot of research in other schools at our university, representatives speak regularly at our university's prestigious events and, moreover, many alumni work for the company. I expect the research will not be very welcome to the executive board of our university and that I, as a supervisor, will be branded a troublemaker.

# WHAT WOULD BE YOUR OPTION?

- A. I propose some other, less controversial, subjects for her PhD.
- B. I warn the student of the potential backlash, but encourage her to go ahead since it is an important topic and she is very well suited to handle it.
- C. I talk to my dean and follow his advice on handling the situation.
- D. I tell the student that she can work on the topic, but that we will have to be careful with the wording of negative conclusions



# WHAT DOES THE CODE SAY?

## BE-code:

- *In their scientific activities, researchers are guided by rules of a scientific nature, which are a condition of their independence.*

## EU-code:

- **All partners** in research collaborations take **responsibility** for the integrity of the research.
- **All partners** in research collaborations **agree at the outset on the goals** of the research and on the process for **communicating** their research as **transparently and openly** as possible.
- All partners formally **agree at the start** of their collaboration **on expectations and standards** concerning research integrity, on the laws and regulations that will apply, on protection of the intellectual property of collaborators, and on procedures for handling conflicts and possible cases of misconduct.
- All authors **disclose any conflicts of interest and financial or other types of support** for the research or for the publication of its results.