

LSTM Research Integrity Report for 2018

During 2018 LSTM has fully engaged with the UUK requirements for HEI's to show due regard to research integrity across its research and teaching portfolios. LSTM RIO has attended several seminars and sector training events to ensure there is a collaborative and consistent approach to research integrity. This short report is intended to tie the various resources together in the form of a summary:

Development of LSTM Public-Facing Web pages on Research Integrity:

As part of our commitment to openness within the Concordat on Research Integrity, LSTM has maintained out-facing its web-pages designed to describe the School approach to research integrity and compliance from its research and teaching community. The resource comprises of our approach to Sponsorship, Ethics, Research Misconduct Handling, Training and links to external policy and guidance and can be found on our website under **Research – Research Integrity**

Development of a LSTM Integrity Statement:

LSTM has produced an integrity statement that clearly defines the expectations of the School from its researchers and students. This statement brings together the principles of good research practice and integrity and defines the behaviours expected of the School's research community and the resources that are in place to help guide and direct researchers to best practice within the sector. The statement can be found on our publicly facing web-page - **Research Integrity**.

Development of a LSTM Integrated Research Application Process:

By integrating the Sponsorship and Ethics Application process, the LSTM Research Governance and Ethics office have managed to ensure that both ethics and Sponsor representatives are given the same information at each stage of the process. This ensures that both functions of the office are made aware of early proposals, full application for sponsorship and ethics, amendments, deviations and Adverse Events are all reported through the same channel to avoid common pitfalls where the Sponsor may become detached from the reporting process. Another advantage of this approach is that it simplifies the application and subsequent reporting process for the researcher.

Development of a training Programme:

The LSTM Research Governance and Ethics Office has spent many months developing a training programme to be delivered to students and staff engaged in research. This programme is a 4-hour session that not only deals with issues of legal compliance but also focuses heavily on the behaviour and culture of research within our organisation and the importance that the School places on fostering an open culture where researchers are treated with respect and there are clear, open policies to be followed in the case of a misconduct allegation. The course has been run 6 times to date with more than 200 attendees. It is evaluated by the attendees as well as the teaching and learning team at LSTM. LSTM have also renewed its licence for the EPIGEUM Research Ethics training modules for 2019 which is available to all LSTM staff members.

Metrics Reporting:

Finally, as part of our commitment to the Concordat, the School will develop a reporting tool for annual metrics. This will publish and make outwardly visible, the number of research misconduct allegations have been received, dealt with and their eventual findings. These metrics will be drawn from all activities within LSTM including its teaching and learning programmes and the entire research portfolio at LSTM. To date, for the purposes of this report the School has received **no (zero)** allegations of research misconduct within the reporting period 1st August 2017 to 31st July 2018.

LSTM research governance and ethics office (RG&EO) are currently developing a relational database called GRACE which is partly designed to capture non-compliance issues across LSTM and, where they may be identified, has a robust policy to investigate and deal with any allegations of research misconduct. This policy is based on the best practice guidance from UUK, Wellcome and MRC guidance.