Inter-institutional collaboration in doctoral education
Research integrity challenges

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VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL

2019 EUA-CDE Thematic Workshop
VU University Amsterdam

Research Integrity

valid methods, data and results avoiding scientific misconduct (the so called FFP)

Fabrication
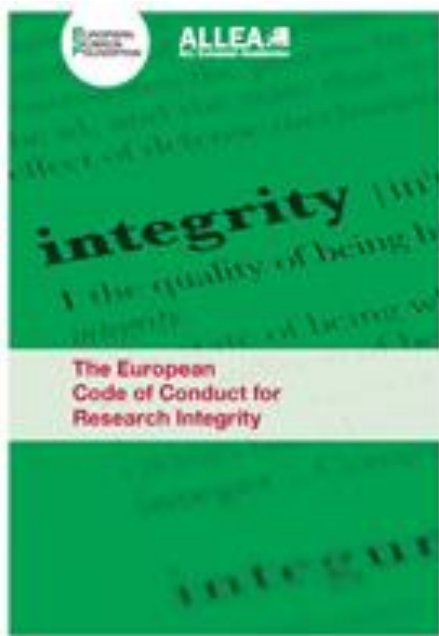**Falsification**
Plagiarism

EU level

European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity (2011, 2017)

ESF: European Science Foundation
ALLEA: ALL European Academies

Principles of integrity in scientific research

Research Integrity: definitions ALLEA (2011)

Research misconduct means fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results.

(a) <u>Fabrication</u> is making up data or results and recording or reporting them.

(b) <u>Falsification</u> is manipulating research materials, equipment, or processes, or changing or omitting data or results such that the research is not accurately represented in the research record.

(c) <u>Plagiarism</u> is the appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit.

Research Integrity: definitions ALLEA (2017)

Research misconduct is traditionally defined as fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism (the so-called FFP categorisation) in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results:

• <u>Fabrication</u> is making up results and recording them as if they were real.

• <u>Falsification</u> is manipulating research materials, equipment or processes or changing, omitting or suppressing data or results without justification.

• <u>Plagiarism</u> is using other people's work and ideas without giving proper credit to the original source, thus violating the rights of the original author(s) to their intellectual outputs.

EU level

European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity (ESF/ALLEA: 2017: 6-7)

2.6 Collaborative Working
• 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 partners in research collaborations are properly informed and consulted about submissions for publication of the research results.

Global

Global level

- World Conference on Research Integrity (WCRI)
- 2007 Lisbon
- 2010 Singapore
- 2013 Montreal
- 2014 Rio de Janeiro
- 2017 Amsterdam
- 2019 Hong Kong

Singapore Statement on Research Integrity

Singapore Statement on Research Integrity

Preamble. The value and benefits of research are vitally dependent on the integrity of research. 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.

PRINCIPLES

Honesty in all aspects of research
Accountability in the conduct of research
Professional courtesy and fairness in working with others
Good stewardship of research on behalf of others

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Integrity: Researchers should take responsibility for the trustworthiness of their research.

2. Adherence to Regulations: Researchers should be aware of and adhere to regulations and policies related to research.

3. Research Methods: Researchers should employ appropriate research methods, base conclusions on critical analysis of the evidence and report findings and interpretations fully and objectively.

4. Research Records: Researchers should keep clear, accurate records of all research in ways that will allow verification and replication of their work by others.

5. Research Findings: Researchers should share data and findings openly and promptly, as soon as they have had an opportunity to establish priority and ownership claims.

6. Authorship: Researchers should take responsibility for their contributions to all publications, funding applications, reports and other representations of their research. Lists of authors should include all those and only those who meet applicable authorship criteria.

7. Publication Acknowledgement: Researchers should acknowledge in publications the names and roles of those who made significant contributions to the research, including writers, funders, sponsors, and others, but do not meet authorship criteria.

8. Peer Review: Researchers should provide fair, prompt and rigorous evaluations and respect confidentiality when reviewing others' work.

9. Conflict of Interest: Researchers should disclose financial and other conflicts of interest that could compromise the trustworthiness of their work in research proposals, publications and public communications as well as in all review activities.

10. Public Communication: Researchers should limit professional comments to their recognized expertise when engaged in public discussions about the application and importance of research findings and clearly distinguish professional comments from opinions based on personal views.

11. Reporting Irresponsible Research Practices: Researchers should report to the appropriate authorities any suspected research misconduct, including fabrication, falsification or plagiarism, and other irresponsible research practices that undermine the trustworthiness of research, such as carelessness, improperly listing authors, failing to report conflicting data, or the use of misleading analytical methods.

12. Responding to Irresponsible Research Practices: Research institutions, as well as journals, professional organizations and agencies that have commitments to research, should have procedures for responding to allegations of misconduct and other irresponsible research practices and for protecting those who report such behavior in good faith. When misconduct or other irresponsible research practice is confirmed, appropriate actions should be taken promptly, including correcting the research record.

13. Research Environments: Research institutions should create and sustain environments that encourage integrity through education, clear policies, and reasonable standards for advancement, while fostering work environments that support research integrity.

14. Societal Considerations: Researchers and research institutions should recognize that they have an ethical obligation to weigh societal benefits against risks inherent in their work.

Inter-institutional collaboration

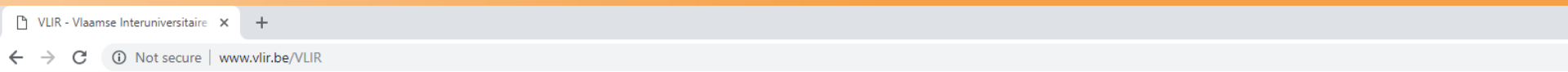But this is not what the presentation is about

How did Flemish Universities implement these regulations?

Based on **Inter-institutional collaboration**

Three cases

- Flemish Interuniversity Council (VLIR) (platform interuniversity collaboration)

- Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) (Flemish funding organization)

- Flemish commission on scientific research (VCWI) (second opinion sc. misconduct)

Case 1: Flemish Interuniversity Council (VLIR)

VLIR - Vlaamse Interuniversitaire ×   +

Not secure | www.vlir.be/VLIR

VLIR *Vlaamse Interuniversitaire Raad*

NL   EN   Search

HOME   **VLIR**   **UNIVERSITIES**   **FACTS & FIGURES**   **INFORMATION FOLDER**   **CONTACT**

VLIR

Flemish Interuniversity Council (VLIR)

The *Vlaamse Interuniversitaire Raad* (VLIR) represents the Flemish universities and was established in 1976. VLIR serves as a platform to facilitate interuniversity cooperation and interaction with the Flemish government in all matters concerning higher education policy. Topics such as education and research policy, university management and administration are addressed.

Over the past years, VLIR has concentrated on improved student orientation in order to facilitate the transition from school to university. Master programmes are developed to secure smooth transition to the labour market. The valorisation of research and the communication of results to all relevant stakeholders is another point of attention at VLIR. The Flemish universities engage in developing common guidelines concerning diversity, equal opportunities, and gender balance for their students and personnel.

VLIR is also the forum where the Flemish universities discuss joint policies and formulate recommendations regarding quality assurance and internationalisation. VLIR is the place where the Flemish universities debate, interact, learn from each other, collaborate and formulate shared solutions.

Interuniversity Development Cooperation (VLIR-UOS)

VLIR *Vlaamse Interuniversitaire Raad*

BELEIDSDOMEINEN ▾   **NIEUWS** ▾   **PUBLICATIES** ▾   **EVENTS** ▾   **UNIVERSITEITEN**   **VACATURES**   **LINKEN**

UNIVERSITEITEN

Universiteit Antwerpen: www.uantwerpen.be

Vrije Universiteit Brussel: www.vub.be

Universiteit Gent: www.ugent.be

Universiteit Hasselt: www.uhasselt.be

KU Leuven: www.kuleuven.be

VLAAMSE UNIVERSITEITEN IN ÉÉN OOGOPSLAG (2016)

Totaal budget:
€ 2 232 987 120

Ingeschreven studenten aan de Vlaamse universiteiten:
145 681

Bacheloropleidingen:
85

Masteropleidingen:
291

Totaal aantal personeelsleden:
31 958

- Professoren (ZAP en OP3): **5 950**
- Assistenten (AAP, OP1 en OP2): **3 931**
- Postdoctorale onderzoekers: **3 677**
- Doctorale onderzoekers: **8 715**
- Administratief en technisch personeel: **9 685**

VUB VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL
Budget (€)
230 904 709
Personeelsleden
3 628
Studenten
15 131

UHASSELT
Budget (€)
89 102 478
Personeelsleden
1 422
Studenten
6 552

KU LEUVEN
Budget (€)
1 001 276 994
Personeelsleden
13 133
Studenten
58 597

GHENT UNIVERSITY
Budget (€)
638 175 947
Personeelsleden
9 523
Studenten
45 217

University of Antwerp
Budget (€)
273 526 992
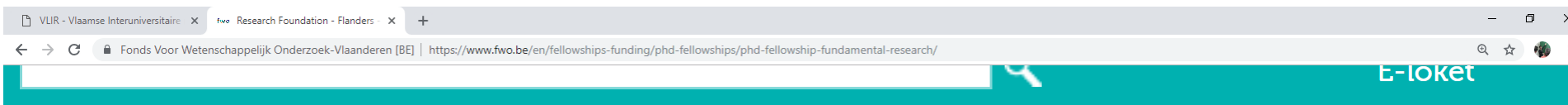Personeelsleden
4 252
Studenten
20 184

Werkgroepen

- Gezaghebbend panel VABB-SHW
- werkgroep Doctoral Schools
- werkgroep EU Research
- werkgroep VLIR & CRef EU Research
- werkgroep Onderzoek en innovatie
- werkgroep RDM (Research Data Management) en Open Science
- werkgroep Statuut jonge onderzoekers
- werkgroep TTO (Tech Transfer Offices)
-
- werkgroep Wetenschap, ethiek en integriteit
- ad hoc werkgroep Dual Use
- ad hoc werkgroep Wetgeving dierproeven

Publicaties

- Brochure Dual Use
- Research Data Management: White Paper

Home > **Fellowships & funding** > **PhD fellowships** > PhD Fellowship fundamental research

PhD Fellowship fundamental research

Objective

A PhD Fellowship fundamental research allows young researchers to prepare a PhD, and to develop into independent scientists with a critical mindset. Fundamental research in the context of a PhD fellowship stands for challenging and innovative research (at PhD level).

For the funding of a limited number of fellowships, the FWO collaborates with VITO and L'Oreal-Unesco.

- You can apply maximum two times for the same fellowship.

- MIND: CHANGE REGULATIONS: On 1 March 2019 (submission deadline) you have 18 months scientific seniority at most

- You have not previously received an FWO fellowship (not even in part).

- You agree with the Research Integrity Clause

- Applied earlier for an FWO PhD fellowship? Look at the Transitional measures on eligibility conditions.

  - You can apply if you obtained your Master diploma not earlier than 5 years before 1 October 2019, or if you are not older than 31 years by 1 October 2019.

  - You can apply if on 1 October 2019, you have 36 months scientific seniority at most.

Submission and selection procedure

- In a nutshell:

  - You find a supervisor affiliated to a Flemish university (or to the Evangelic Protestant Faculty in Leuven or the Faculty for Protestant Theology in Brussels), who is ready to guide you as a

FWO Fellowships & funding Vlaams Supercomputer Centrum News Contact

Home > The FWO > Organisation > Research integrity > Research Integrity within the FWO

What can FWO do for me?

The FWO supports fundamental and strategic research

Organisation

> **Statutes**

> **Financing of the FWO**

> **Governing bodies**

> **Policymaking bodies**

> **FWO-Expertpanels**

> **Charter on Good Governance**

> **HR Strategy**

> **Research integrity**

> **Research ethics**

Research Integrity within the FWO

In 2013, a taskforce at FWO set out to propose measures to ensure research integrity. The taskforce was made up of academics from the Flemish universities and from various research areas. It was chaired by Professor Jacob Fokkema, Honorary Rector of TU Delft and member of the Board of Trustees of the FWO. The conclusions of the taskforce have been the subject of intensive consultation between the FWO and the Flemish universities. The proposals were approved by the Board of Trustees in June 2015.

Attention was directed to both prevention and awareness raising, detection and monitoring, corrective action and sanctioning.

The following measures were implemented:

- incorporation of a clause in calls, application forms and agreements;

- profiles for researchers, supervisors and institutions, with rights and duties;

- amendments to the regulations;

- further development of the procedures used by the FWO and the host

fwo Opening new horizons

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Help

Overview of your applications

Download application in PDF

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Help

Application form: Nieuw onderzoeksproject

FILE NUMBER: 20875

| GENERAL | HOST INSTITUTION | FUNDING PER HOST INSTITUTION | SUPERVISORS |

| ETHICS | EXPERT PANEL | REFEREES | PROJECT OUTLINE |

| RESEARCH CONTEXT | EXTRA DATA |

Give the English title of your research proposal.
Use up to 240 characters.

Encoding and transmitting knowledge using material artefacts: a comparative study of the cultural use(s) of mathematical practices in string figure-making (Oceania, North & South America).

Research Ethics

Informed consent: Does the proposal involve

❑ children?

❑ patients or persons not able to give consent?

❑ adult healthy volunteers?

❑ human genetic material?

❑ human biological samples?

❑ human data collection?

Research on human embryo / foetus: Does the proposal involve

❑ human embryos?

❑ human foetal tissue or cells?

❑ human embryonic stem cells?

Research Ethics

Privacy: Does the proposal involve
- ❏ processing of genetic information or personal data (e.g. health, sexual lifestyle, ethnicity, political opinion, religious or philosophical conviction)?
- ❏ tracking the location or observation of people?

Research on animals: Does the proposal involve research on animals? Are those animals
- ❏ transgenic small laboratory animals?
- ❏ transgenic farm animals?
- ❏ cloned farm animals?
- ❏ non-human primates?

Research involving developing countries
- ❏ Do you make use of local resources?
- ❏ Is there benefit to the local community?

Research Ethics

Dual use: Does the proposal involve
- ❑ direct military application?
- ❑ the potential for terrorist abuse?

ICT implants: Does the proposal involve
- ❑ clinical trials of ICT implants?

Fonds voor wetenschappelijk ... (BE) | https://www.**fwo-eloket.be**/FWO.ELoket.WebUI/Subsidiewijzer/SubsidieAanvraag.aspx   Q Zoeken

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FILE NUMBER: 20875

| GENERAL | HOST INSTITUTIC | FUNDING PER HO | SUPERVISORS |

| ETHICS | EXPERT PANEL | REFEREES | PROJECT OUTLINE |

| RESEARCH CONTE | EXTRA DATA |

If you have indicated "Yes" for at least one of the items below, you must submit your proposal to the research ethics committee of your host institution for ethical clearance, as soon as your application has been approved for funding. Your project can only start when this clearance has been formally given.

☐ I confirm that none of the issues below apply to my proposal.

- Vlaamse Commissie wetenschappelijke integriteit (VCWI)

- VCWI was founded in 2014

- <u>Its role:</u>
  - advise on scientific integrity in general
  - second opinions on concrete cases
    all cases first go to the university commission on scientific research (CWI)

- **Flemish commission on scientific research (VCWI) Members:**
  - 1 chair (eldest of scientific members)
  - Different disciplines: 3 members from
    - Positive and applied sciences
    - Biomedical sciences
    - Human and social sciences
  - 1 member for legal advice (without a vote)
  - 1 secretary (without a vote)

  - Parity amongst 5 Flemish Universities
  - Members are appointed for 4 years; term once renewable

Scientific integrity:

University level (autonomy)

- All Flemish universities have specialized commissions for the protection of scientific integrity.

- Procedures are described at PhD regulations

- Universities have a charter on ethics and scientific integrity (providing all information how the institution is dealing with these issues)

- Based on **Inter-institutional collaboration**

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