Responsible Conduct of Research Seminar Series

Please join us for a fun and interactive series of discussions about research in a university setting. Some of your favorite professors will be role-playing and faced with ethical dilemmas; they will look to the audience for guidance.

Each session is offered twice, during lunch (12:05—12:50) on Tuesday and Wednesday in Lee Med 107. Please consider joining us every week. Bring your lunch if you’d like. Caffeine and sugar will be provided!

**August 23, 24—Author! Author!**
Just before leaving, a postdoc proves her hypothesis. Later, a student tries to replicate the results but can’t. In fact, the results are completely different. The postdoc believes she should be an author on the resulting paper authored by the student. Should she?

**August 29, 30—Mine! Mine!**
A postdoc develops a new algorithm for use with a commercially available software. Her position is funded by a grant; the software was purchased using grant funds. Can the algorithm be protected? Who owns the rights to the algorithm?

**September 5, 6—What’s this? Can I use it?**
A new faculty member finds a large data set and uses a new modeling program to analyze parts of it. The grant that funded the original data collection is cited in the resulting paper, but the original PI is left off. Should he have been included? In what capacity?

**September 12, 13—Eh, they’re just rats**
Only one more experiment is needed to complete a drug study in a cohort of rats, but 80% of the animals in the study have developed tumors at the injection site. The rats have lost weight but show no signs of discomfort. What should you do?

**September 19, 20—That’s no lady; it’s my mom**
The keynote address at a meeting includes some clinical studies. The presenter made no effort to obscure faces or identities of the patients he treated. A colleague of yours recognizes her step mother as one of the subjects. What advice do you give her?

**September 26, 27—Uh oh. That’s not good...**
A consultant holds an adjunct position. He also serves on advisory boards and invests in biomedical companies. One of the companies he invested in asks him to test a drug. Problems come to light during the tests, so he sells his stock in the company. Is this ok?

**October 3, 4—Money is money, right?**
A researcher was granted industry funds for a project. He gave his new graduate student the option of working on the project. The money comes with notable perks, but all publications must be approved by the company. What advice would you give the student?

**October 10, 11—I just wanted to help...**
A graduate student is investigating the impacts of homelessness on children. Tests should be blind, but she asks the kids where they live and then changes some of the answers to increase the disparity between the two groups in hopes of getting the kids more help.

**October 17, 18—Throw out the trash**
A postdoc is having a hard time collecting data that supports his hypothesis. He finally gets part of an experiment to give him the results he needs, so he carefully crops the inconclusive lanes out of the figure he uses. It is only preliminary data for a grant...

**October 24, 25—Hey! You! Get off of my cloud**
A new researcher has just left the lab of his mentor where he was very successful. He is looking forward to publishing his first paper without his mentor, but right before he submits, his mentor contacts him and claims that they came up with the idea together.