

EDINBORO UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

MISCONDUCT IN RESEARCH-Policy No. C034

Supersedes Policy No. C034, Dated 6/20/90

Recommended for Approval By John F. Fleischauer, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Approved By Foster F. Diebold, President on September 30, 1993

Review Date: As Required

INTENT

In accordance with the requirements of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the Public Health Service (PHS), the following policy has been created as required by the Final Rule (42 CFR Part 50, Subpart A), as published at 54 FR 32446, August 8, 1989.

The intent of this policy is to reaffirm the uncodified, but existing policy of Edinboro University, and to establish procedures for dealing with and reporting possible misconduct in research, in order to ensure that Edinboro University is in compliance with the guidelines set forth by the Public Health Services (PHS) Act, for any project or program which involves the conduct of biomedical or behavioral research.

Nothing in this policy constitutes acknowledgment that Edinboro University is, at any particular time, subject to the federal regulations cited above.

POLICY

"Misconduct in Research" is defined as fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, or other unethical practices that seriously deviate from those that are commonly accepted within the research community for proposing, conducting, or reporting research. It does not include honest error or honest differences in interpretations or judgments of data.

Research misconduct of faculty, students, or staff will not be tolerated by Edinboro University. Findings of misconduct will be penalized appropriately in accordance with such procedures of due process as are currently applicable to the offender. Such penalties may range from censure to dismissal for cause, and will conform to the appropriate collective bargaining agreement where applicable. The President will be the final appeal authority within the University.

PROCEDURE

Edinboro University will consider recommendations from appropriate constituents on the procedures, which shall not be inconsistent with the federal regulations cited above or any other applicable law, rule, regulation or collective bargaining agreement.

A subcommittee of four members of the Faculty Research Committee and one member of the Council of Deans will be appointed by the President as the Misconduct in Research Committee. This committee, the composition of which will be reviewed each year in the fall, will stand ready to conduct inquiries and investigations of any allegations of research misconduct that are reported to the administrator to the Institute for Research and Community Services(IRCS). This subcommittee will report via the Faculty Research Council to the Administrator of IRCS, who will refer recommendations to the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs and appropriate authorities for action.

The University faculty will be advised of the existence of this committee and that the administrator of IRCS is the institutional officer responsible for receiving reports of any alleged research misconduct.

The Committee will devise explicit procedures and processes for carrying out its work, subject to approval by the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President.

The administrator of IRCS is designated as the official to sign any "Assurance" statement required by Federal or other agencies.