


Memorandum

To: Faculty Receiving NSF Funding

From: Tom O'Neal, Associate Vice President for Research 

Date: December 23, 2009

Subject: Implementation of the National Science Foundation's Responsible Conduct of Research Regulation

Effective January 4, 2010 the National Science Foundation (NSF) will require grant recipients to implement a Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training and monitoring plan for post doctoral researchers, and graduate and undergraduate students performing research or training activities on NSF funded projects. To implement NSF's RCR regulatory requirements the following university guidelines have been established.

1. Principal Investigators must describe in the NSF grant proposal a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to students (graduate & undergraduate) and post doctoral researchers assigned to the project.
2. Principal Investigators should identify one or more of the following RCR training options:
 - a) CITI on - line research misconduct training modules [<http://www.citiprogram.org>.]
 - b) university classes covering research misconduct subject matter offered by academic and research units.
 - c) individual training between the Principal Investigator and their students/post doctoral researchers using NSF recommended publications or equivalent training materials (RCR curriculum outline must be provided to ORC).
3. The Principal Investigator or designated official must indicate the training method (CITI modules, formal class, individual training) that will be used by completing a RCR training notification form in ARGIS. Principal Investigators should:
 - a) ensure all students and post doctoral researchers participate in the RCR training.
 - b) monitor student/post doc progress in completing RCR training.
 - c) provide ORC with classroom and individual RCR training completion document for each student/post doc.
4. All RCR training must be completed within 120 calendar days from the date the student/post doc is assigned to the NSF project. Post doc and student RCR training will be valid for 3 years from the date of completion unless otherwise approved by ORC.

For additional information on responsible conduct of research please go to the ORC web page [<http://www.rcr.ucf.edu>]. Please contact Doug Backman (407-882-1168) or Justo Torres (407-882-1131) in the Office of Compliance if you have any questions or comments.