

This fact sheet aims to:

- Inform about the University's network of Research Integrity Advisors.
- Provide guidance around research integrity, the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research and the role of Research Integrity Advisors (RIAs) in providing initial advice.

It is relevant to:

- Any person or organization conducting research under the auspices of Griffith University, including staff members, students, adjunct appointments and academic title holders.

What is research integrity?

- Research integrity refers to all of the factors that underpin good research practice and promote trust and confidence in the research process¹.
- The [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, 2018](#) outlines the broad principles and responsibilities that underpin the responsible conduct of Research in Australia.
- Griffith University places the highest importance on upholding the integrity of our research. Researchers have an obligation and a personal responsibility to conduct their research activities in an ethical and professional manner in compliance with the Australian Code 2018, [Griffith policies and procedures](#), and all other applicable Guidelines, laws, and codes of conduct. A failure to meet these obligations may constitute a breach and, in serious cases, research misconduct.

What role to Research Integrity Advisors play?

- RIAs are nominated, trained, and supported by Griffith University to promote the responsible conduct of research by providing advice on research practices and researcher responsibilities as well as advice to those with concerns or complaints about potential breaches of the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (the Code).
- Anyone with a concern that a breach of the Code may have occurred and would like advice is encouraged to discuss the matter with any RIA before submitting a [formal complaint](#).
- RIAs are people with research experience, analytical skills, empathy, good communication skills, knowledge, and understanding of the university's processes and the Code. They also will have familiarity with accepted research practices in general, and, where possible, discipline-specific practices.
- The RIA's role does not extend to assessment or investigation of a concern or to contacting the individual involved. The roles and responsibilities of Research Integrity Advisors are detailed in the following:
 - Provide guidance and advice to researchers and concerned parties on responsible research practices in accordance with the Code, its supporting guides and the institution's relevant processes and procedures
 - Assist with education and training as well as promote responsible research practice in their respective areas
 - Disclose any conflicts of interest that they may have to the concerned party.
 - Maintain confidentiality and keep records of all formal discussions and advice given.

¹ Definition from UK Research Integrity Office

Research Integrity Matters

- Common research integrity matters for which advice from an RIA may be sought include:
 - Concerns about research conduct
 - conflicts of interest
 - disputes relating to authorship, publication and dissemination of research
 - disputes with collaborators
 - student/supervisor disputes
 - peer review process
 - data, materials and record management
 - plagiarism
 - research fund management
 - how to lodge a formal complaint
 - any other query or concern in relation to a potential breach of the Australian Code

Consulting a Research Integrity Advisor

Anyone with a question or concern about research practices should speak to a RIA as soon as possible. Issues can often be avoided with early and appropriate communication. Individuals may speak to a RIA from any Griffith academic group (eg. Health, Science, AEL or GBS).

[Current Research Integrity Advisor List](#)

Becoming a Research Integrity Advisor

If you are interested in becoming a research integrity advisor, please contact your Dean Research and seek their endorsement. Then please get in touch by emailing research.integrity@griffith.edu.au.

For more information contact:
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