

# Research Integrity@UNSW

1 January - 31 December 2022

# ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report provides an insight into complaints received by the Conduct and Integrity Office (CIO) relating to the responsible conduct of research by UNSW researchers between 1 January and 31 December 2022.

#### Limitations

Information in this report is based on information recorded by the UNSW Conduct and Integrity Office on 31 December 2022.

#### **Conduct and Integrity Office**

Division of Planning & Assurance July 2023

# **Contents**

AT A GLANCE	3
INTRODUCTION	4
UNSW Research integrity framework	4
Role of the Conduct & Integrity Office	4
COMPLAINTS RECEIVED	5
What they were about	5
Which disciplines they related to	6
Who the complaints were from	6
How they were managed	6
Complex complaints and timeframes	7
COMPLAINTS RESOLVED	8
Preliminary assessment outcomes	8
Outcomes	ç
Discipline	ç
Researcher experience	ç
Appeals	10
Themes and issues identified	10
DEVELOPMENTS, ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022	11
KEY RISKS & CONTROLS IN 2023	13
APPENDIX – Process for handling complaints about research at UNSW	15

#### Conduct and Integrity Office (CIO)

The Conduct & Integrity Office supports UNSW's position as Australia's global university in research and educational excellence by ensuring that the principles of respect and integrity underpin the pursuit of knowledge at the University.

#### The CIO manages:

- · Student complaints and student conduct and integrity
- Research integrity
- Reports of wrongdoing
- Complaints from members of the public
- Reports of sexual misconduct
- Complex complaints
- Prevention and engagement
- the UNSW Complaints Management System.

# AT A GLANCE



Complaints & enquiries

#### received

represented a small, but steady increase

Complaints made against only

2.7% of UNSW researchers



the complaints raised

mostly in Science, Engineering & Medical Sciences



complaints raised by UNSW staff

Complaints resolved

against 57 current and former UNSW researchers

90% of 176 allegations investigated were found to be unsubstantiated.



of the UNSW Research Code of Conduct

# Increasing case complexity

Complaints are becoming increasingly more complex and taking longer to resolve as they involve:

- several or more researchers or allegations
- greater public and regulatory scrutiny; and/or
- high stakeholder expectations.

#### **Issues identified**

Relationship breakdowns between researchers underpin about most matters on hand with the Conduct and Integrity Office (CIO).

There is poor understanding of authorship and publication requirements at all levels of researcher experience.

# Prevention and education

The CIO has developed resources and training to support researchers and the responsible conduct of research at UNSW.

#### \* NOTES

- 1. More than one allegation may be raised against a researcher.
- In 2023, some researchers were found not to have breached the Research Code despite having allegations substantiated where the conduct was found to have been the result of a clerical error/oversight related to research administration.

# INTRODUCTION

# **UNSW Research integrity framework**

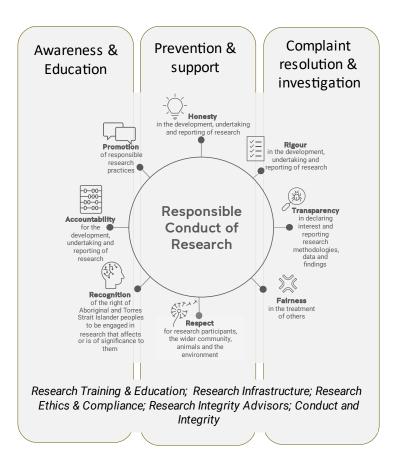


Figure 1: Responsible Conduct of Research at UNSW

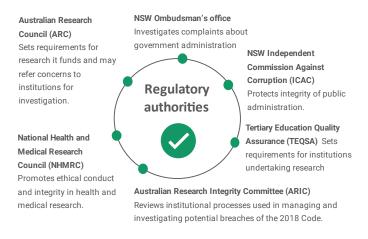


Figure 2: Key statutory and regulatory authorities

The UNSW <u>Research Code of Conduct</u> (Research Code) articulates the principles of a responsible research culture and describes behaviours and standards expected of all UNSW researchers. It forms the basis of the University's framework for research undertaken by UNSW researchers (Figure 1).

The Research Code is supported by the UNSW Research Misconduct Procedure (RMP), which sets out the process for handling complaints about alleged breaches of the Research Code at the University. An overview of the process is set out in the Appendix on page 15.

The Research Code and RMP are based on the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research 2018 (Australian Code)<sup>1</sup> and Guide to Managing and Investigating Potential Breaches of the Code, 2018<sup>2</sup> respectively.

# Role of the Conduct & Integrity Office

The Conduct and Integrity Office (CIO) works with Faculties, Schools and Divisions to maintain integrity in research at UNSW by:

- Promoting and providing education on the responsible conduct of research
- 2. Supporting researchers to avoid research misconduct
- 3. Managing complaints about alleged breaches of the Research Code
- Identifying institutional risks and gaps related to the responsible conduct of research and issuing recommendations to address these; and
- 5. Ensuring compliance with statutory and legal requirements set and regulated by a range of external authorities (Figure 2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Australian Code for Responsible Conduct of Research 2018. National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Research Council and Universities Australia. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Guide to Managing and Investigating Potential Breaches of the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research 2018. National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Research Council and Universities Australia. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

# **COMPLAINTS RECEIVED**

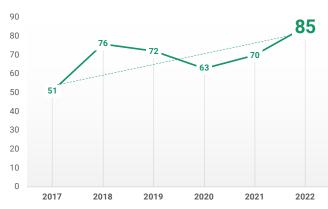


Figure 3: Annual comparison of matters raised in 2018-2022

The Conduct and Integrity Office (CIO) received 85 complaints and enquiries relating to UNSW research and researchers between 1 January and 31 December 2022.

As Figure 3 shows, this maintains a relatively small, but steady, increase when compared with previous years.

Complaints and enquiries have only been made against a very small proportion (2.7%) of the University's 2,994 researchers<sup>3</sup>.

# What they were about

	Number of complaints <sup>a)</sup>				Number of allegations arising from complaints		
Type of concern	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2022 <sup>d)</sup>
Authorship	10	13	13	9	9	16	39
Plagiarism	7	4	7	6	6	12	12
Falsification and/or fabrication	7	6	14	5	6	8	16
Human Research Ethics	3	10	7	3	6	6	6
Publication/Dissemination						7	7
Conflict of Interest	2		1	3	3	5	5
Animal Research Ethics	2	28	10	10	8	2	2
Import/Export quarantine						2	2
Privacy (Research)					3		
Copyright/IP	5	3	4	3		2	2
Recordkeeping/ Data Handling	4	2	1	1	4		2
Gene Technology			1				
Grant related	7	4	4	1	2	1	2
Responsible research conduct c)	1	6	9	20	15		
Supervision & Mentoring	2			1	4	2	2
Other	1	0	1	1	4	22 b)	28
TOTAL	51	76	72	63	70	85	125

Table 1: Types of concerns raised in complaints and queries a).

#### Note:

- a) The total number of complaints received between 2017-2019 previously reported in 2021 has been updated.
- b) Includes 10 research student complaints/enquiries not related to the conduct of research or potential breach of the Research Code which were managed according to the UNSW Student Complaints Procedure.
- c) Responsible research conduct was not used in 2022 as it was too general.
- d) Identifies the total number and types of allegations raised by the 85 complaints/enquiries received by the CIO in 2022.

CRICOS Provider Code 00098G

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Source: UNSW Workforce Analytics and Reporting

A single complaint or enquiry may relate to one or more alleged breach/es of the Research Code (allegations) and involving one or multiple researchers. Where the CIO was previously only able to report on one 'main' concern in each complaint, a detailed review of complaints received in 2022 identified that the 85 complaints /enquiries resulted in a total of 125 individual allegations raised against UNSW researchers.

As indicated in Table 1 on the previous page, most of the complaints and enquiries received by the CIO related to authorship, with most (75%) cases alleging inappropriate inclusion or exclusion of an author on a research output.

# Which disciplines they related to

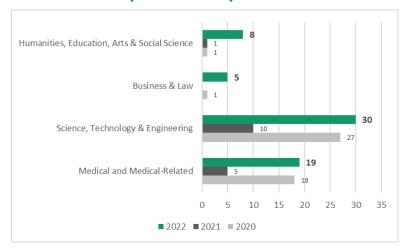


Figure 4: Breakdown of complaints and enquiries by discipline and year

As with previous years, complaints and enquiries largely related to research and the conduct of researchers in science, engineering, and medical and health related disciplines (Figure 4).

Approximately half of the complaints and enquiries raised in relation to research and researchers in medical and health related disciplines related to authorship concerns, while those in the fields of science and engineering involved plagiarism and authorship.

# Who the complaints were from

Source	2022	2021
UNSW staff	30	15
Anonymous	18	-
External	19	34
Other UNSW business unit	6	14
Research Integrity Advisor	5	1
CIO	4	-
<b>UNSW affiliated institution</b>	2	-
Student	1	6
TOTAL	85	70

Table 2: Source of complaints and enquiries in 2022 compared with 2021

Most of the complaints and enquiries received in 2022 were raised by UNSW staff

As indicated by Table 2 above, about a third (35%) of all complaints and enquiries about UNSW research and/or the conduct of research were received from UNSW staff. Unusually, 21% of complaints and enquiries were made anonymously to the CIO in 2022.

Complaints and enquiries made individuals outside of the University included a referral from the Australian Research Council (ARC) and four from a journal.

# How they were managed

Complaints and enquiries received by the CIO are managed according to the UNSW Research Misconduct Procedure. An initial assessment is conducted to determine if the complaint involves:

- 1) The conduct of research
- 2) A UNSW researcher/s; and
- 3) A potential breach of the Research Code.

The CIO then determines whether the complaint may be addressed at the School/Faculty level or requires a misconduct

preliminary assessment. Examples of matters which may be addressed at the School/Faculty level includes matters related to research administration, such as, unintentional administrative errors, clerical errors/oversight.

The purpose of the preliminary assessment (further investigation) is to gather and assess whether the facts of the complaint, if substantiated, would constitute a breach of the Research Code. Additional allegations and/or respondents may be identified by the CIO during the initial assessment and/or preliminary assessment.

As indicated by Table 3 below, 17 of 60 complaints (comprising 52 separate allegations), met the scope of the Research Misconduct Procedure and were referred for a preliminary assessment.

Initial assessment outcome	Complaint	Enquiry	Feedback	Total
Response provided	3	16		19
Preliminary assessment	17			17
Managed by another UNSW process	12	1		13
Dismissed	9	2		11
No action required	5	4		9
Complaint withdrawn	6			6
Referred to local level	2	1	1	4
Referred to ER/HR	3			3
Referred to another institution/organisation	3			3
TOTAL	60	24	1	85

Table 3: How the complaints and enquiries were managed

# Complex complaints and timeframes

Each year, the CIO receives more complex complaints involving several or more researchers or allegations. These require more time to gather and assess the facts of the complaint.

In 2022, the CIO received a referral of:

- additional allegations linked to two complaints lodged in late-2020 which involved 12 research papers and 25 current and former UNSW researchers
- a matter which initially involved an allegation of potential 'gift authorship<sup>4'</sup> in a single paper but during the initial and preliminary assessment processes resulted in further allegations of unethical publishing practices, including 'ghost authorship<sup>5'</sup>, potential data falsification, and other non-research related conduct being identified across 22 papers. In total, 10 current and former UNSW researchers have been implicated as co-authors of the papers
- an authorship dispute involving 23 UNSW and non-UNSW researchers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Gift authorship is where authorship has been attributed to an individual who may not qualify to be an author on a research paper.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ghost authorship is where an individual who may qualify for authorship but is not included as an author or acknowledged for their contribution to the research output.

# **COMPLAINTS RESOLVED**

In 2022, the CIO resolved **31 complaints** (which were raised in 2022 and in previous years) which comprised 61 matters against 57 current and former UNSW researchers. The 61 matters addressed a total of 176 allegations.

#### Complaints raised and resolved in 2022

Of the 17 complaints that were referred to a preliminary assessment in 2022, seven (41%) complaints were resolved within the same year. They involved 23 respondents with 35 allegations between them. Most (91% or 32) of the 35 allegations raised were found to be unsubstantiated.

# **Preliminary assessment outcomes**

This section examines the **61 matters** determined in 2022, comprising **176 allegations** against **57 current and former UNSW researchers** (NOTE: some researchers were involved in more than one matter).

Allegation	Not Substantiated	Substantiated	TOTAL
Misrepresentation / Misleading data or conclusions	75		75
Deviation/Breach of approved ethics protocol	10	10	20
Self-plagiarism	15		15
Lack of robust methodology	12		12
Plagiarism	7	1	8
Copying	14		14
Failure to disclose or declare conflict	4	1	5
Author - Exclusion	3	1	4
Author - Inclusion	2	1	3
Research without necessary ethics approval	2	1	3
Acknowledgement	3	1	4
Inappropriate citation	2		2
Other grant administration	2		2
Fabrication / falsification	2		2
Inadequate referencing	1		1
Irresponsible peer review	1		1
Failure to guide and mentor	1		1
Failure to report suspected breaches	1		1
Authorship dispute – no consent for inclusion		1	1
Breach of confidentiality		1	1
Failure to keep clear, accurate, secure and complete records	1		1
TOTAL	158	18	176

Table 4: Breakdown of allegations and findings on conclusion of preliminary assessments completed in 2022

As indicated in Table 4, 90% of allegations investigated through preliminary assessment processes in 2022 were found to be unsubstantiated. Of note is that 63 (84%) of the 75 allegations of misrepresentation/ misleading data or conclusions were raised in a complaint received in 2021 against 10 UNSW researchers. The same complaint also raised allegations against several overseas based researchers. All the allegations raised in the complaint were dismissed as they could not be substantiated by both UNSW and the overseas researchers' institution. A further eight (11%) of the 75 allegations were raised by a complaint which was initially raised in 2016. The matter was determined 2019 with a minor breach of the Research Code related to

one of the allegations being found. The matter was then re-investigated in 2020 following an appeal to the Australian Research Integrity Committee (ARIC) and was finalised in 2022 with all allegations found to be unsubstantiated. It was determined that the complaint arose because of a difference in opinion about the appropriateness of methodology and academic critique of the UNSW researcher's published work.

The 10 substantiated breaches of ethics protocol followed assisted self-reporting by UNSW researchers of unintentional deviations from approved ethics protocols. These resulted in findings of a minor breach of the Research Code with researchers to take corrective action recommended by either the UNSW Animal Care and Ethics Committees (ACEC) or Human Research Ethics Committees (HREC).

#### **Outcomes**

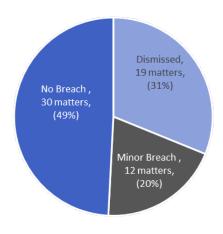


Figure 5: Breakdown of outcome for matters finalised in 2022

'No breach' was found against researchers in almost half (49%) of the 61 matters. Of these, almost half (43% or 13 matters) were found not to have breached the Research Code despite allegations being substantiated as the conduct was the result of clerical error/oversight and were related to research administration.

Significantly, 19 matters were dismissed when allegations were unsubstantiated. These include matters raised against the 10 UNSW researchers mentioned in the previous section. A further seven matters raised by a single complainant against former UNSW Higher Degree

Research (HDR) candidates was also dismissed as the complainant was unable to provide sufficient information for UNSW to progress further in the preliminary assessment.

Most of the matters investigated in 2022 found no breach of the UNSW Research Code

# Discipline

As illustrated by Figure 7, and consistent with complaints received, most of the matters finalised in 2022 were in the Science, Technology, Engineering, Medical and health related fields.

# Researcher experience

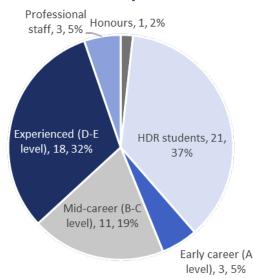


Figure 7: Breakdown by researcher experience level

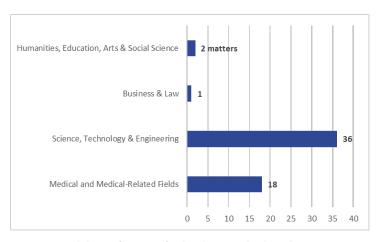


Figure 6: Breakdown of matters finalised in 2022 by discipline

As indicated by Figure 6, of the 57 current and former researchers, HDR candidates (37%) and experienced researchers (32%) were the most highly represented. Of the HDR candidates, most were respondents in matters involving plagiarism or copyright infringements in theses. Experienced UNSW researchers were primarily respondents to complaints involving allegations of misrepresenting/misleading data and/or were Chief Investigators in matters involving breaches of approved ethics protocols.

# **Appeals**

Complainants in two matters determined in 2022 lodged an appeal with the Australian Research Integrity Committee (ARIC). Both reviews were finalised in 2023 with ARIC:

- upholding one of the appeals, with corrective action to be undertaken by UNSW; and
- not upholding the second appeal and recognising that UNSW followed best practice in investigation of the matter.

#### Themes and issues identified

#### Relationship breakdown

Authorship disputes typically fall into this category as researchers report finding it awkward to have difficult discussions about authorship, such as, who is to be included or excluded as an author on a paper, the order in which they are listed and the content of the published work. Failure to reach agreement have led to disputes and complaints of research integrity.

#### Relationship breakdowns and link to research complaints

A brief analysis by the CIO of the 117 matters on hand in 2022 identified that 47% (55 of 117 matters) involved a relationship breakdown between researchers or a workplace grievance. In such case, parties have a vested interest in the outcome and are highly engaged in the preliminary assessment process of the complaint. This often prolongs the process as limited resources are redirected toward managing expectations and additional concerns being raised throughout the preliminary assessment process.

More detailed analysis is now being undertaken by the CIO with the aim to identify opportunities to support researchers and avoid situations that lead to a research relationship breakdown and misunderstanding, and to manage disagreements before they escalate to a dispute - and/or complaints of research misconduct.

#### Poor understanding of authorship and publication requirements

The CIO has identified poor researcher understanding of authorship and publication requirements as an issue in many of the matters managed to date. Many UNSW researchers seem to be unaware of the authorship criteria, with allegations of 'gift authorship' and 'ghost authorship' increasingly being raised in complaints and during the preliminary assessment process.

Publication requirements, especially in relation to checking for plagiarism prior to thesis submission, obtaining copyright permission, inclusion of copyright statements and ascription of institutional affiliation also appear to be poorly understood by UNSW researchers, regardless of experience level.

#### What the CIO is doing about it...

In 2022, the CIO collaborated with the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education and Student Experience (PVCESE) portfolio to develop a <u>two-part video guide to support HDR supervisors</u> on using iThenticate, the text similarity checking tool used at UNSW for checking work submitted by HDR students for plagiarism.

The CIO is now collaborating with UNSW's Law Faculty and Division of External Engagement to develop a series of resources and training for:

- researchers on holding difficult conversations; and
- Heads of Schools, Deans and Research Integrity Advisors on mediation and guidance for managing disagreements, including authorship disagreements and workplace grievances to prevent them from escalating into something more difficult to resolve.

In response to growing demand, the CIO has extended its Research Integrity@UNSW presentation to Honours students in more Schools across the University and as a refresher session for early-career researchers. To meet demand, CIO is proposing to develop this presentation into a video in 2023/4.

# **DEVELOPMENTS, ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022**

In 2022, the CIO welcomed two new Senior Case Managers, Dr Shaun Khoo and Dr Tiff Lin and Case Manager, Stephanie Tesoriero. The additional staff has enabled CIO to hold more proactive outreach activities.

This section of the report highlights CIO initiatives and activities to promote the responsible conduct of research at UNSW in 2022.

#### **Priority**

#### Raise awareness & understanding of Responsible Conduct of Research and address emerging issues

#### **Key Achievements**

#### Making it easier for researchers to do the right thing

Supervisors of HDR candidates have been required to use plagiarism checker iThenticate to check Theses before submission for examination for several years now. However, it has emerged through cases investigated by CIO and concerns raised by researchers when requesting access, that their ability to utilise the tool and interpret similarity reports was poor.

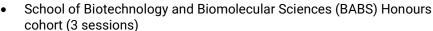
The CIO developed a two-part video guide and resource to support HDR supervisors to understand:

- when to use the tool and how to access it:
- how the tool can help supervisors to identify plagiarism, such as, copying and inappropriate paraphrasing. The videos also show supervisors alternative ways to detect other problem areas such as collusion or reuse of images without copyright permission.

#### **Outreach and proactive activities**

The CIO presented Introduction to Research Integrity and Research Integrity@UNSW sessions to the following Schools over the year, targeting students in the Honours years and early research years:

- Optometry Post Graduate Club
- School of Biological, Earth and **Environmental Sciences (BEES)** Honours cohort (3 sessions)



Graduate School of Engineering

#### In 2023

Following positive reception of CIO's Introduction to Research Integrity and Research Integrity@UNSW sessions in 2022, there has been an increased demand for the sessions to be presented to other Schools in 2023. The CIO is proposing to make an on-demand video of the sessions in 2023/4.



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#### **Priority**

#### **Key Achievements**

Networking and collaboration to promote and share best practice

#### **Research Ethics and Integrity Forum**

The CIO together with UNSW's Research Ethics and Compliance Support held quarterly meetings with Research Integrity Advisors to facilitate discussion around emerging trends, issues and best practice. In 2022, Professors Paul Munroe (Science) and Lucy Marshall (Engineering) concluded their tenure as Faculty Research Integrity Advisors, with CIO welcoming Professors Belinda Ferrari and Cordelia Selomulya respectively to these roles.

#### Communities of good practice in responsible conduct of research

The CIO participates in the:

- Group of Eight Research Ethics and Integrity Group (quarterly)
- NSW Research Integrity Group NSW RIG (quarterly)
- NUW Alliance Research Integrity Group, comprising UNSW, Western Sydney University, Macquarie University, University of Wollongong, and University of Newcastle, which meets fortnightly to share strategies and approaches to managing research integrity matters and emerging issues in research integrity.

#### Professional collaboration in NSW, nationally and internationally

- UK Research Integrity Office (UKRIO) Webinar: Equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in the research environment
- UKRIO Annual Conference
   Following attendance at the UKRIO, the CIO was approached to share its
   experience and resources on best practice in promoting research integrity
   with other attendees, including the Institute for Stem Cell Science and
   Regenerative Medicine (India) and Angela Ruskin University (ARU), United
   Kingdom
- World Conference on Research Integrity (WCRI)
- KPMG Forensic Webinar: Digital Deception
- Universities Australia Best Practice Principles for Academic Integrity
- Macquarie University Research Integrity Conference Threats to Academic Integrity & How to Address Them

#### **Invited SOUL Conference Speaker**

The CIO was invited to be part of a panel on managing allegations of serious research misconduct at the 2022 Society of University Lawyers (SOUL) annual conference, along with the ARIC, ARC and an independent workplace investigator.

#### In 2023

#### The CIO will:

- take over from Macquarie University in co-ordinating and Chairing the NSW Research Integrity Group, comprising 37 members from universities and other research institutions across NSW, the Northern Territory and Tasmania.
- join a National Research Integrity working group focused on complaint management and investigations, hosted by the University of Queensland and attended by managers and investigators.

# **KEY RISKS & CONTROLS IN 2023**

#### Risk

# Poor awareness and understanding of Research Integrity leads to questionable research practices, which impacts researcher and university credibility and trust in research.

#### **Controls in place**

- Codes and procedures are readily available and accessible
- Researcher training, including Epigeum Research Integrity training, supervisor training, research data management training
- Research Integrity
   Advisors in each
   Faculty to promote
   research integrity and
   advise researchers on
   relevant UNSW codes,
   guidelines and
   procedures about the
   responsible conduct of
   research.

Falsification and/or fabrication of research data/findings leads to unreliable results, which impacts research and university credibility and public trust in research.

- Policies and procedures on data management, open access and peer review
- Strong supervision and mentorship
- Regular review of lab books
- Peer review

Contract cheating and plagiarism leads to work submitted not being the work or words of the researcher/s, which impacts researcher and university credibility and trust in research.

- Promoting good supervision and mentoring
- Warning issued to students of contract cheating
- Requirement that all supervisors use iThenticate before Theses are submitted for examination

#### Planned in 2023+

- Communications and engagement activities focused on ongoing proactive awareness raising and understanding of Research Integrity. This includes:
  - Face-to-face Introduction to Research Integrity and Research Integrity @UNSW sessions to research students and researchers
  - Developing face-to-face training and online video guidance for researchers on the Responsible Conduct of Research
- Continue to monitor and examine reports of:
  - publication retractions to identify problem trends and issues related to research integrity; and
  - research integrity concerns involving UNSW research or researchers raised in postpublication peer-review platforms.
- Contribute to the development, and implementation, of the University's Codes of Conduct and new Complaints and Investigation Policy.
- Continue to support the Research Integrity Advisors to promote research integrity with researchers
- Implement the SpeakUp Strategy to promote a culture of respect and integrity
- New complaint management system (CMS) to make it easier for staff and students to raise concerns about research integrity.

Breakdown in researcher relationships/communications leads to authorship and publication disputes, which impacts on the dissemination of research.

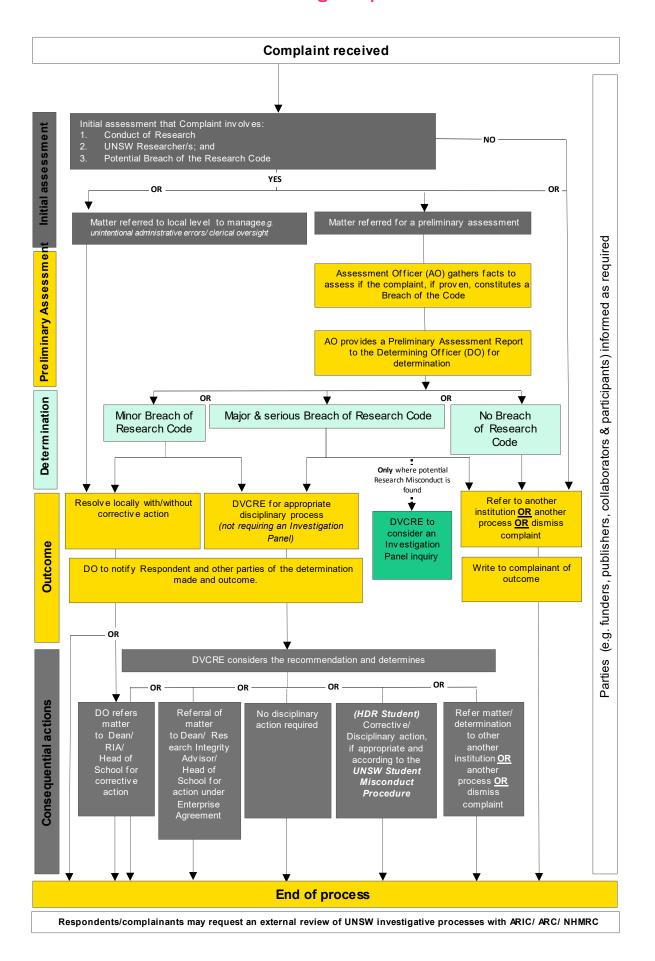
- · Codes and procedures
- Onboarding, induction and training

Development of resources and training for:

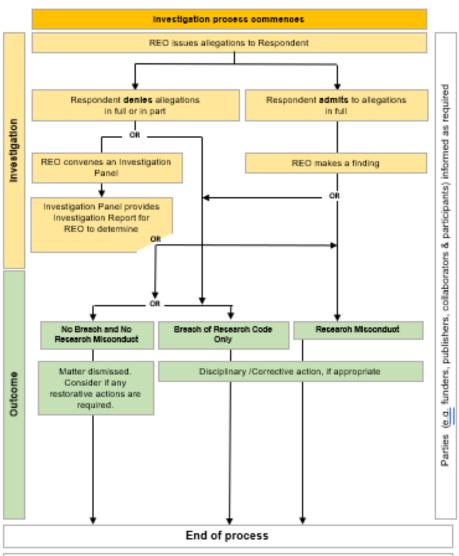
- researchers on holding difficult conversation; and
- Heads of Schools, Deans and Research Integrity Advisors on mediation and guidance for managing disagreements, including authorship disagreements and

Risk	Controls in place	Planned in 2023+
		workplace grievances to prevent them from escalating into something more difficult to resolve.
Poor research supervision results in poor research practice, which impacts researcher and university credibility and trust in research.	<ul><li>Codes and procedures</li><li>Supervision training</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Graduate Research School (GRS) to continue to drive an educative approach and cultural change among new and emerging supervisors.</li> </ul>
research.		<ul> <li>CIO to collaborate with the GRS to roll-outface-to-face and online video of Responsible Conduct of Research when developed.</li> </ul>
Unintended breach of ethics protocol results in poor research practice, which impacts researchers ability to publish results	<ul><li>Codes and procedures</li><li>Ethics Committees</li></ul>	Implement recommendations arising from Go8 benchmarking exercise on protocol deviation management.
Under-reporting of breaches of the Research Code results in poor research practices being accepted, which impacts the quality and reputation of research at UNSW.	Educative approach to minor breaches of ethics protocol designed to streamline the process of reporting breaches of ethics protocol. Under this approach, researchers are encouraged to self-report breaches of ethics protocol.	<ul> <li>Communications and engagement strategy focused on ongoing and proactive 'speak up' integrity culture</li> <li>Improved online information on how to lodge a complaint about questionable research practices</li> <li>Improved information on how to identify and pathways to report breaches of the Research Code</li> <li>Rolling communication to reinforce the message of protections for complainants.</li> </ul>
Increase in regulatory/ stakeholder scrutiny and expectations on UNSW handling of research integrity concerns increases pressure and demands on already constrained resources and impacts on timeliness of case resolution.	<ul> <li>Regular updates on regulatory body expectations through Go8 Research Ethics and Integrity Group meetings.</li> <li>Regular updates and communication with interested parties in matters.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Streamlining of UNSW complaint and investigation policy and procedure</li> <li>New complaint management system (CMS) to make it easier for case management and will facilitate regular stakeholder updates</li> <li>Submission for additional resources to reduce caseload pressure and timeframes – and enable proactive education and stakeholder management activities.</li> </ul>

### APPENDIX - Process for handling complaints about research at UNSW



# **Investigation Panel Inquiry process**



Respondents/complainants may request an external review of UNSW investigative processes with the ARIC/ ARIC/ NHMRC.

Where Research Misconduct is found, a respondent may request an internal review of the investigation process and/or under the relevant Enterprise Agreement.