Research Misconduct Policy

Synopsis
What is Research Misconduct

Department of Health and Human Services defines research misconduct as:

• **Fabrication** – making up results and recording or reporting them.

• **Falsification** – manipulating research materials, equipment or processes or changing or omitting results such that the research is not accurately represented.

• **Plagiarism** – appropriating someone else’s ideas, processes, results or words without giving proper credit.

*Deliberate or repeated non-compliance* with the regulations can be considered misconduct.
Criteria for Research Misconduct

• Represents a significant departure from accepted practices

• Has been committed intentionally, or knowingly, or recklessly; and

• Can be proven by a preponderance of evidence
What is NOT Misconduct

1. honest, unintentional error

2. honest differences of opinion
Institutional Requirements

• Establish policies and procedures for investigating and reporting instances of alleged research misconduct

• Provide training and education

• Promote ethical and responsible conduct of research

• Provide support to assist with correcting occurrences of misconduct
Morgan State University Policy

- Maintain high standards of honesty, accuracy and objectivity in science and other scholarly and creative works, to prevent research misconduct where possible, and to evaluate and to resolve promptly and fairly instances of alleged or apparent Research Misconduct.

- Take appropriate remedial and disciplinary action in response to findings of Research Misconduct.
Dealing with Misconduct - STEPS
Allegation
Evidence of possible research misconduct

Assessment
Possible Research Misconduct

Inquiry
(Inquiry Committee appointed)

Further Investigation needed

Investigation
(Investigation Committee appointed)

Step 1: Allegation
Step 2: Assessment (Research Integrity Officer)
- If no, Not research misconduct. Inquiry not warranted, triage as appropriate
- If yes, Inquiry warranted
Step 3: Inquiry (Committee)
- If no, Investigation not warranted
- If yes, Investigation warranted
Step 4: Investigation (Committee)
- If no, Research misconduct not confirmed
- If yes, Research misconduct confirmed
Step 5: Recommendation for sanction
Step 6: Appeal Process (Optional)
Allegation
Assessment
Inquiry
Investigation
Recommendation for Sanction
Thank You!