

“Taking Responsibility for Responsible Conduct of Research”

A course to guide postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty in mentoring others looking to them for guidance on the ethics and responsibilities of conducting biomedical research

Wednesdays, 3:30-5:15 pm

January 7 through March 25, 2009

Northwestern University, Chicago and Evanston Campuses

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This new course has been created for postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty who are recipients of NIH or other training awards that require training in Responsible Conduct of Research. The course will cover the principles and expectations for conducting biomedical research ethically and responsibly, but will go one step farther to guide participants in teaching others for whom they are responsible. It will be presented simultaneously on the Chicago and Evanston campuses through interactive videoconferencing. To register, contact: Nucats-ed@northwestern.edu

Topics to be covered will include:

The Basics <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identifying lines between misconduct, irresponsible conduct, and expected normative practices• Northwestern policies and resources• What to do if you suspect misbehavior or someone comes to YOU with concerns
Mentoring <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Core principles of teaching and learning through mentors• Responsibilities when mentoring others• Helping others deal with the lack of consensus across the community on some practices
Data Acquisition, Management, Sharing and Ownership <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expected practices• Intellectual property
Conflicting Interests – Recognizing, Acknowledging, Managing, Eliminating <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Getting beyond naïveté in the ability to avoid unconscious and subtle unintended bias• Federal and Northwestern policies and practices with respect to financial conflicts of interests• Risks of non-financial COI such as professional and commitment• Institutional COI
Peer Review <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What really are the instructions and expectations for journal and NIH peer reviewers?• Inclusion of graduate students and postdocs in peer review processes• Teaching others the high bar for respect of intellectual property revealed to peer reviewers
Publication Practices and Responsible Authorship <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The range of norms, beliefs and practices among scientists and disciplines on assignment of credit through authorship and acknowledgements• Journal practices requiring explicit statements of contributions of authors• Establishing and communicating your criteria and process for determining authorship
Research with Animals <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Going beyond the web-based training to real-life considerations of using animals in research• Practical applications for seeking approval to use animals in your research• Supervising and training others to work with animals in research
Research with Human Subjects and Materials <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beyond the basics to reality• Balancing potential conflicts between protecting subjects and accomplishing vital research
International Science <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Differing views and practices across countries and cultures• Research involving developing countries
Collaborative Science <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New issues arising as research becomes much more of a ‘team sport’• As a mentor, guiding others working across research groups and differing research practices• Prospectively addressing possible issues BEFORE they arise
Leading a Research Team <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The buck now stops with you – are you ready?• Creating an environment that promotes RCR• Prospective vs. reactive leadership of RCR