

Annual Statement on Research Integrity 2016/17

The University of Roehampton is a signatory to the Concordat to Support Research Integrity, the national framework for good research conduct and its governance. In accordance with the recommendation of the Concordat, this statement outlines how research integrity is supported and strengthened at the University of Roehampton. It also provides a statement on any cases of research misconduct or formal investigations that have been undertaken in 2016/7.

Environment for research integrity:

The Deputy Provost for Research and External Engagement has responsibility for ensuring that the University of Roehampton meets its obligations and observes best practice in research integrity. Anyone who has any concerns or wishes to raise any issues in relation to research and its integrity at the University is able to communicate with the University Registrar as an independent point of contact, and can be confident that their anonymity will be protected.

Policy framework:

The following policies and procedures support a rigorous approach to ensuring research integrity at the University of Roehampton:

- Code of Good Research Practice
- Ethics Guidelines
- Data Protection Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Intellectual Property Policy
- Public Interest Disclosure Policy
- Disciplinary Procedures (Staff)
- Student Disciplinary Regulations

Ongoing activities to support research integrity:

- Research Committee provides leadership for all research related matters at the University of Roehampton, and includes representatives from all academic departments and the postgraduate research community;
- Research students are supported by the Research Students Degree Programme, an ongoing training programme covering all aspects of research activity and personal development;
- Research Supervisors are supported by training, provided by SEDA (Staff and Educational Development Association);

- The Ethics Committee provides continued oversight and review of ethical considerations of proposed research activity, and provides assurance, reporting to Senate;
- The role of Ethics Representatives, in each academic department, has been enhanced in 2017 in order to ensure best practice across all disciplines at the institution;
- Research Leads have been appointed in each academic department in 2017, to provide oversight and leadership for all research activity, including ensuring research integrity;
- The University's Legal Secretary and Contracts Officer provides support for researchers who are conducting research, and ensure that it adheres to the highest standards of research integrity.

Research Misconduct

- In 2016/17 there have been no cases of research misconduct reported against staff or postgraduate research students.

Conclusion

The University continues to promote and prize research the highest standards of research integrity. We will continue to develop our policies and practice to ensure that our research staff are supported in adopting a rigorous approach to research and its integrity.

Identified actions for 2017/8:

- A review of the current Code of Good Research Practice, and related research policies and processes is being undertaken in 2017/8;
- The research staff training programme will be extended to promote best practice in research integrity, and the provision of open data and research in 2017/8.