

## Texas A&M AgriLife Research Rules

15.99.03.A1 | Ethics in Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work

Reviewed: October 11, 2018

Next Scheduled Review: October 11, 2023

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### **RULE SUMMARY**

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Texas A&M AgriLife Research (AgriLife Research) strives to maintain superior standards in all research, scholarship, and creative work activities and expects all employees and other persons participating in AgriLife Research projects and/or support activities to do likewise.

This rule is required by System Regulation 15.99.03, *Ethics in Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work*, for handling allegations of scientific misconduct consistent with the terms of the System Regulation.

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### **PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

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#### 1.0 ALLEGATIONS OF MISCONDUCT

Any allegations of misconduct in research, scholarship, or creative work activities conducted on behalf of AgriLife Research should be reported to the Associate Director. The Associate Director is the "Designated Officer" for carrying out the requirements of this Rule and System Regulation 15.99.03.

#### 2.0 INQUIRY AND INVESTIGATIONS

- 2.1 The inquiry based upon a written complaint sufficiently credible and specific may be initiated by the Designated Officer or a committee appointed by the Designated Officer. The inquiry is an assessment of whether the allegation has substance and if the allegation warrants an investigation.
- 2.2 If an inquiry provides sufficient basis for conducting an investigation, one shall be conducted following the guidelines of System Regulation 15.99.03. An investigation will be conducted by a committee appointed by the Designated Officer. The investigation is a formal examination of relevant facts to determine if misconduct has occurred.
- 2.3 The findings along with any recommended sanctions will be forwarded to the Director/designee and the respondent in accordance with System Regulation 15.99.03. Actions taken, if any, will be in accordance with System Regulation 15.99.03.

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### **RELATED STATUTES, POLICIES, OR REQUIREMENTS**

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[System Regulation 15.99.03, \*Ethics in Research, Scholarship and Creative Work\*](#)

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### **DEFINITIONS**

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For definitions, see "Definitions" in System Regulation 15.99.03.

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**CONTACT OFFICE**

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Questions regarding this rule should be referred to the Associate Director for AgriLife Research at 979-845-8486.

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**REVISION HISTORY**

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*Approved: August 10, 2010*

*Revised: November 4, 2012*

*Reviewed: January 6, 2016*

*Reviewed: October 11, 2018*

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