

Statement on Research Integrity, 2016/17

The Concordat to Support Research Integrity states the following:

Employers of researchers already take steps to ensure that their environment promotes and nurtures a commitment to research integrity, and that suitable processes are in place to deal with misconduct. It is important that these efforts continue to be suitable and that they are communicated more effectively, and that the same high standards apply to all. The concordat therefore recommends that employers of researchers should present a short annual statement to their own governing body that:

- *provides a summary of actions and activities that have been undertaken to support and strengthen understanding and application of research integrity issues (for example postgraduate and researcher training, or process reviews)*
- *provides assurances that the processes they have in place for dealing with allegations of misconduct are transparent, robust and fair, and that they continue to be appropriate to the needs of the organisation*
- *provides a high-level statement on any formal investigations of research misconduct that have been undertaken*
- *To improve accountability, and provide assurances that measures being taken continue to support consistently high standards of research integrity, this statement should be made publicly available.*

The following is an excerpt of the report to the UAL Audit Committee:

3. Research staff

- 3.1 No allegations of research misconduct were made against UAL staff in 2016/17.
- 3.2 The programme of research training for UAL Early Career Researchers (ECRs) included staff development on Research Governance and Integrity. Sessions on Research Governance and Integrity were also delivered as part of the 'Research as Academic Practice' unit of UAL's MA Academic Practice in Art, Design and Communication course for academic staff.
- 3.3 A seminar on Research Ethics targeted at BA & MA course teams was held as part of the University's Research Fortnight in March 2017. The Director of RMA led a seminar on research ethics for LCC MA Photography students in February 2017 as part of the development of online learning tools on research ethics. An interactive online learning unit on research ethics using Pratap Rughani's film *Justine* (2013) is in development.

4 Research Degree students

- 4.1 282 students were enrolled on the research degrees programme in 2016/17. Less than 1% of students were withdrawn for lack of progress or other reason.
- 4.2 Research degree students continued to be trained in research integrity issues and in completing applications for research ethics approval as part of the Research Network

University of the Arts London (RNUAL) training programme.

5 Research Integrity Codes, Policies and Procedures

5.1 In February 2017 Research Ethics Sub-Committee reviewed the Code of Practice on Research Ethics and the Guide to Ethics approval to ensure the currency of the documents, including related to the Prevent Statutory duty. Revised documents were approved at the March 2017 meeting of University Research Committee.

5.2 University Research Committee reviewed the Procedure for the Investigation of Allegations of Misconduct in Research at its June 2017 meeting.

5.3 The University's Codes, procedures and practices for research integrity are fit for purpose.

- UAL Code of Practice on Research Ethics
- UAL Code of Good Conduct in Research
- UAL Procedure for the Investigation of Allegations of Misconduct in Research