Parallel session information

Parallel session 1: 11:50 – 12:40

OPTION A

What does research integrity mean in the humanities and social sciences?

Speaker: Harriet Barnes, Head of Policy (Higher Education and Skills), the British Academy

Overview: While many of the most pressing concerns and high profile cases relate to research in science and medicine, research integrity does also pose questions for the humanities and social sciences. This session will explore these issues, particularly in relation to the rigorous use of data, ethical behaviour in the conduct of research, and plagiarism.

OPTION B

Research ethics in the physical sciences is not just a box to be ticked.

Speaker: Professor Philip Moriarty, School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Nottingham.

Overview: We’re lucky in the physical sciences - especially in physics – because the majority of us tend not to deal with problems that relate directly to healthcare, disease, or, more broadly, experiments with human/animal subjects. This sometimes, however, leads to an unfortunate “I don’t need to worry about research ethics” mentality which, when coupled to box-ticking protocols, can too often result in a lack of awareness of key aspects of scientific misconduct. I’ll discuss just how we might publicise and address questions of ethical research standards in the physical sciences.
OPTION C

Workshop - The Concordat and annual institutional statements on research integrity

Speakers: Max Hastings, Policy Researcher, Universities UK; Rowena Lamb, Cultures of Integrity Coordinator, UCL; and James Parry, Chief Executive, UKRIO

Overview: The Concordat to Support Research Integrity recommends that institutions make an annual statement on research integrity to their governing body and that this statement be made public. A 2016 progress report by Universities UK noted that comparatively few statements have been published. It recommended that, to comply with the Concordat:

“research organisations should have… a publicly available annual narrative statement setting out the steps they have taken to promote a positive culture of research integrity.”

This workshop will explore what an annual statement might look like, what challenges are involved in producing one and how they can benefit research organisations. Do questions from research funders serve as a suitable template or are they unhelpful in this regard? How should institutions approach the reporting of summary data on misconduct cases?

Delegates will have the opportunity to share their perspectives and experiences, while the output from this session will be used by UKRIO to develop advice on these issues, informing a future edition of our Self-Assessment Tool for the Concordat to Support Research Integrity.

Parallel session 2: 13:30 - 14:20

OPTION D

Research integrity and a future research culture

Speakers: Dr Jo Dally, Head of Policy (Research), Royal Society; Dr Frances Downey, Senior Policy Adviser, Royal Society

Overview: Prioritising integrity in a future research culture will require adjustments to many systems, including those that govern assessment, publication and the funding of work. This session will talk about the Royal Society’s focus in this area, and consider different mechanisms and pressures that lead to poor practice. Improving research integrity then necessitates understanding how these link together, how the systems that give rise to them act in tandem, and how this could change in the future.
OPTION E

Workshop: a framework for research ethics committees

Speaker: John Oates, British Psychological Society and Open University

Overview: In 2013, the Association for Research Ethics published the Framework of Policies and Procedures for University Research Ethics Committees which has been widely taken up by universities. The Framework is a practical document that discusses: principles of research ethics and governance arrangements; how to implement these principles in the ethical review process; Model Standard Operating Procedures for research ethics committees; and a self-assessment tool for university research ethics committees.

A revision of this Framework is now being planned as a collaboration with UKRIO and the Association for Research Managers and Administrators (ARMA). This session will launch the consultative process for this revision with a presentation and critical examination of the four principles for ethics review that form the foundation of the Framework. Delegates will also be given the opportunity to raise issues and challenges from their own experiences, to inform the revision of the Framework.

OPTION F

UKRIO Stakeholder Forum

Speakers: James Parry, Chief Executive, UKRIO; Professor Bernard Silverman FRS FAcSS, Chair, UKRIO and former Home Office Chief Scientific Adviser.

Overview: The Chair and Chief Executive of UKRIO will discuss the ongoing and future work of the charity. The following discussion will explore how UKRIO and subscriber institutions can work together to sustain and enhance research integrity, both by improving the general culture and by addressing individual cases of poor practice.

Next steps

Once you have decided which sessions you would like to attend, please complete the following questionnaire to make your choices: UKRIO 2017 parallel sessions choices

Please complete the questionnaire by 4 May 2017.

Your selection will then be emailed back to you within seven days.

Please note that we may have to limit the number of delegates for certain sessions. If this means that you are unable to attend one of your preferred sessions, we will contact you as soon as possible so you can make an alternative selection.

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