

HONESTY
RIGOUR
RESPECT
TRANSPARENCY
ACCOUNTABILITY

UK Research Integrity Office 2024/25: the year ahead



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Registered Charity No: 1147061, Registered Company No: 7444269

Why does research integrity matter?

Research and innovation profoundly affects our daily lives. From informing policy to influencing investment and driving advances in healthcare, technology, and beyond, research shapes the world around us and our quality of life now and into the future.

Consequently, the critical importance of integrity within research cannot be overstated. Whether a research study is rigorous, honest, transparent, respectful, and accountable - the key tenets of integrity - is essential to both the individual success of that work and to our collective knowledge and progress as a society.

Since 2006, UKRIO has provided independent and expert support to help enhance good research practice, address mistakes, questionable practices and fraud, and improve the culture and systems of UK research. Fundamentally, our vision is to ensure that research is of the highest integrity, quality and efficacy for the collective benefit of humanity.

CEO introduction



Research integrity is essential to enhance quality and ethical standards, safeguard public trust in research, and ensure societal benefit. UKRIO provides a unique resource for the research community: independent, expert and confidential support to help organisations continually improve research systems and culture, and to help researchers do the best research that they can.

Our aim is the more systematic and visible promotion and demonstration of integrity in research. UKRIO's work goes beyond what can be achieved through contractual standards and complements the work of regulatory, professional, and funding bodies.

We recognise that no single actor can resolve the systemic issues at play and work collaboratively both nationally and internationally to address the complex and ever-changing challenges to good research practice.

As demand on resources continues to grow and challenges to research integrity evolve, this is a pivotal time for UKRIO to do even more to enhance the reliability of research and safeguarding public trust.

Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement. Together, we will continue to advance and promote research integrity and responsible research in the UK and beyond.

Stephanie Neave

Chief Executive Officer
UK Research Integrity Office

How does UKRIO make a difference?



Champion high quality research

Champion the governance, management and conduct essential for high quality and ethical research



Lead and shape conversation

Lead and shape conversations about research integrity in the UK and beyond



Offer independent advice and guidance

Give confidential, independent and expert advice and guidance on all forms of research integrity challenges as they arise



Cultivate and share best practice

Create and share knowledge of best practice and positive research cultures and conduct

Our subscribers

UKRIO facilitates a growing network of 130+ subscribing research organisations committed to research integrity, from higher education institutions to government bodies, charities, social enterprises and learned societies.

Higher education institutions	100+ higher education institutions, including all Russell Group universities, multi-disciplinary universities across the UK, and specialist institutions such as the University of the Arts London, and Rose Bruford College of Theatre & Performance.
Independent research institutes	The Sainsbury Laboratory, CRUK Scotland Institute, Plymouth Marine Laboratory and the James Hutton Institute.
Government bodies	Taighde Éireann – Research Ireland, UK Ministry of Defence Research Ethics Committee (MODREC), National Physical Laboratory and UK Health Security Agency.
Charities and social enterprises	Nesta, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Health Data Research UK, RAND Europe, The Institute of Cancer Research and Health Foundation.
Learned societies	The Royal Society, The British Academy.

What are our priorities for this year?

UKRIO focuses its efforts on the emerging and thorny issues where our deep expertise and trusted voice can make a difference, both at the institutional and community level. Our priority workstreams for 2024/25 have been developed through extensive consultation with stakeholders. In addition to these areas, we will continue to be responsive to opportunities and challenges that arise in-year and advocate for research ethics and governance more broadly.

Priority workstreams

2024/25 activities



Increasingly used to augment and accelerate research, **artificial intelligence** poses both potential benefits and risks for research integrity. UKRIO's work will involve exploring topics such as Assistive AI, Interpretive AI, Generative AI and AI's function in research governance.

- Publish practical, in-depth guidance on AI and research integrity for researchers and research governance staff
- Host roundtable event with key actors to collaboratively identify challenges and solutions
- Create train the trainer toolkit



Research misconduct can have a chilling effect on the validity of, and confidence in, research. That confidence is the currency of decision for funders and investors, for researchers building on other work in their field and for politicians and the public determining what to trust and must be maintained.

- Provide new guidance on destigmatising language, data protection, and legal considerations
- Input in the review of the Concordat to Support Research Integrity
- Progress the proposals set out in our 2024 report, *Barriers to Investigating and Reporting Research Misconduct*



Authorship plays a critical role in research, conferring credit for the work alongside responsibility and accountability for the research record. Disputes and complexities in authorship can have a significant negative impact on the research record, researchers and research culture.


- Convene stakeholder workshops to develop strategies to address and prevent common challenges
- Provide guidance and model procedures to anticipate, mitigate, and resolve authorship challenges
- Develop template authorship agreement



Research culture is an essential factor in ensuring quality and ethical standards and in improving public trust in research. Just as a healthy research culture can enhance research integrity, unhealthy environments and systems can create and exacerbate challenges for researchers and organisations.

- Provide a programme of practical tools
- Publish guidance for senior leadership
- Provide expert advice to help embed best practice in research policies, systems, environment and culture
- Explore effective ways to enhance and measure research integrity
- Develop a support programme to implement these strategies

Our services: at a glance

Type of support	What we offer	What you can do
Advisory Service	<p>Every year, the charity fields enquiries from every sector of UK research, as well as from other countries, on topics ranging from fabrication and falsification of data to research ethics, publication and authorship issues and matters of research governance.</p> <p>This not only acts as a critical service for the research community, but also gives UKRIO exceptional insight into challenges to research integrity at the individual, organisational and national level. UKRIO draws on our Advisory Council and wider volunteer community to ensure we are informed by diverse expertise and perspectives.</p>	<p>Access our advisory service.</p> <p>Join our community as an expert volunteer.</p> <p>In 2024/25, we are particularly interested to hear from experts with skills to complement our four priority workstreams.</p>
Information, Advice, and Guidance	<p>UKRIO has a hub of continually expanding resources and guidance. Our practical guidance and services are available to everyone involved in research, from senior leadership teams to those just starting their research careers.</p> <p>Our resources are categorised into seven themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good practice and governance • Research misconduct • Research ethics - human • Research ethics - animals • Publication ethics including authorship • Research culture • Equity, diversity and inclusion 	<p>Access our resources.</p> <p>Help us share our information, advice, and guidance by following and engaging with us on social media:</p> 
Thought leadership	<p>UKRIO works with actors from across the research ecosystem to inform, influence, and shape the national conversation and policy agenda on research and research integrity.</p> <p>Our charity also facilitates quarterly roundtable discussions, convening stakeholders to dissect complex issues, share good practice and pool expertise to develop creative solutions together.</p>	<p>To learn more about partnership working or to discuss a policy issue, please email info@ukrio.org</p>

Our services: continued

Type of support	What we offer	What you can do
Events	<p>Our popular expert webinar series showcases novel approaches to existing challenges and catalyses meaningful dialogue on topical issues.</p> <p>Every year, we also hold an exclusive day for our subscribers to hear from leading experts, share experiences and good practice, and input into UKRIO's future priorities.</p>	<p>You can find our full events schedule and register for events on page 9.</p>
Education and training	<p>UKRIO offers a range of training and education including online courses, consultancy, virtual and in-person training.</p> <p>Training topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to research integrity • Implementing the Concordat to Support Research Integrity • Organisational strategies to enhance research culture • Research integrity champions and advisors • Research integrity and research culture for senior leadership teams • Investigating research misconduct • Publication ethics and authorship in research • Research design and conduct for researchers <p>Online training courses</p> <p>In April 2024, UKRIO offered subscribers access to a 12-month pilot of its Introduction to Research Integrity online training course, developed in collaboration with UCL.</p> <p>Plans to launch the course more widely will be shared in 2025. Additional courses on a range of introductory and in-depth topics are also in development.</p>	<p>To make an enquiry about training, please use the form:</p> <p>https://ukrio.org/our-work/education-and-training/</p> <p>This will help us to better understand the type of training, number of delegates, and format you are seeking.</p>

UKRIO subscription

Our charity is fortunate to be supported by a network of over 130+ research organisations. Subscribers receive additional benefits such as in-depth and long-term advice and guidance, early access to new training, and exclusive events and resources.

Subscriber benefits: at a glance



Sectoral and societal impact

- Signal your commitment to research integrity
- Support the advancement of sector-wide and systems-level initiatives to advance research integrity
- Input into thought leadership activities to shape the national agenda
- Safeguard public trust in research and the UK's global standing



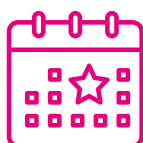
Information, advice, and guidance (IAG)

- Access to our bank of continually expanding resources and guidance on a range of topics, including AI, authorship, ethics, equality, diversity and inclusion, governance, and misconduct
- Practical, independent advice and support tailored to your needs
- Access to our confidential advisory service
- Assistance with policy review including dedicated UKRIO contact



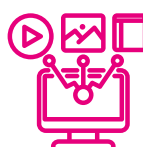
Education, training, and consultancy

- Access to online research integrity training courses
- Quarterly training webinars on research integrity, responsible research and innovation, research ethics, and authorship
- One hour of virtual training or consultancy included in subscription
- Discounted rates on further bespoke training



Conferences, webinars, and roundtables

- Five topical webinars led by experts from around the world
- Quarterly roundtables to dissect complex issues and collaboratively develop solutions
- Annual Subscriber Symposium to hear from leading experts, share good practice, and input into UKRIO's priorities and work programme



Exclusive resources and support

- Access to our subscriber-only portal, with exclusive case studies, toolkits and guidance
- Facilities to request independent research misconduct panel members or seek collaborations
- Newsletters summarising the latest developments in research integrity

To learn more about joining UKRIO's growing community of organisations and individuals committed to research integrity, [visit our website](#).

2024-25 events & training

- Subscriber-only events
- Events open to all (free)

Register now

Event type	Topic	Date and time
Roundtable	<u>Reducing barriers to addressing research misconduct</u>	Tues 24/09/24 10 - 11am
Webinar: expert speaker series	<u>AI in research: supporting research integrity through governance and ethics</u>	Weds 09/10/24 10 - 11am
Subscriber training	<u>Introduction to research integrity</u>	Weds 16/10/24 10 - 11am
Subscriber training	<u>Ethical considerations in research</u>	Tues 12/11/24 10 - 11am
Webinar: expert speaker series	<u>Research integrity and research culture in the third sector</u>	Tues 03/12/24 10 - 11am
Roundtable	<u>Authorship in research publications</u>	Weds 11/12/24 10 - 11am
Subscriber training	<u>Responsible research and innovation</u>	Thurs 23/01/25 10 - 11am
Webinar: expert speaker series	<u>Embedding equity in research integrity</u>	Weds 05/02/25 10 - 11am
Roundtable	<u>AI and research integrity</u>	Thurs 27/02/25 10 - 11am
Subscriber training	<u>Authorship in research publications</u>	Weds 19/03/25 10 - 11am
Webinar: expert speaker series	<u>Strengthening research integrity in the arts and humanities</u>	Thurs 24/04/25 10 - 11am
Subscriber symposium	Subscriber Symposium	Thurs 22/05/25
Roundtable	<u>Supporting organisations to measure and advance research integrity</u>	Weds 11/06/25 10 - 11am
Webinar: expert speaker series	<u>Research culture: practical initiatives for measurement and improvement</u>	Weds 25/06/25 10 - 11am

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