



Annual Conference 2019

Parallel session information

Parallel session 1: 11:40 – 12:30

OPTION A

The next chapter in research integrity: perspectives from the Concordat signatories

Speakers: Jennifer Evans, Senior Research Manager, Higher Education Funding Council for Wales; Samuel Roseveare, Policy Manager, Universities UK; Dr Anne Taylor, Head of Grants Operations, Wellcome Trust.

Overview: The Signatories' group created the revision of the Research Integrity Concordat ahead of the consultation which launched earlier this year. The group of signatories is largely made up of research funders, but also key stakeholders of research from across the higher education sector, and all have welcomed the opportunity to revisit the Concordat and challenge themselves to meet the ambitions of the Science and Technology Committee's recommendations.

This session will reflect on the process and the genuine commitments signatories are making, to respond to a tightening up of the research environment in this important area for universities.

OPTION B

Scientific ecosystems and research reproducibility

Speaker: Professor Marcus Munafò, UK Reproducibility Network; Professor of Biological Psychology, University of Bristol.

Overview: There have been a number of high-profile cases of academic fraud, but a more insidious threat to the integrity of science is the extent to which distortions of scientific best practice increase the likelihood that published research findings are in fact false. There is growing evidence for a range of systemic problems within science, such as flexibility in the

analysis of data, selective reporting of study results, publication bias against null results, influence of vested (e.g., financial) interests, and distorted incentive structures.

A number of strategies for improving the situation will be discussed. This includes the recently established UK Reproducibility Network, which is a peer-led initiative intended to bring about change by engaging directly with funders, publishers and other stakeholders.

OPTION C

In it together: managing cross-institutional research misconduct investigations

Speakers: Rowena Lamb, Head of Research Integrity, University College London; Dr Rhys Morgan, Head of Policy, Integrity and Governance, University of Cambridge.

Overview: Institutions have a responsibility to properly consider all allegations of potential research misconduct, but what happens when an allegation involves multiple institutions? How and when should we work together? How do we agree what we can (and can't) tell each other? How do we agree responsibilities in a way that ensures a thorough and efficient investigation?

This talk will explore some of the challenges posed by cross-institutional research misconduct investigations and, using the Russell Group's recent '*Statement of Cooperation in respect of cross-institutional research misconduct allegations*' as a model, suggest ways that these can be overcome.

Please note: *to ensure that delegates can have a free discussion of the challenges involved in research misconduct investigations, this session will not be open to journalists or other media representatives.*

Parallel session 2: 13:30 - 14:20

OPTION D

UK Research and Innovation: foundations for excellent research and innovation

Speaker: Dr Elaine Morley, Senior Policy Advisor, UK Research and Innovation.

Overview: Creating a strong and responsible research culture is crucial to enable the best research and innovation and to gain and maintain public trust. This session will discuss the work of UK Research and Innovation in promoting and safeguarding good research practice.

It will also provide an update on its work on creating the national research integrity committee, a key recommendation of last year's report into research integrity by the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee.

OPTION E

Clinical trial registration and reporting of results – challenges for non-commercial organisations

Speakers: Professor Jacob George, Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine & Therapeutics at University of Dundee and R&D Director for East of Scotland; Dr Birgit Whitman, Head of Research Governance and Integrity, University of Birmingham; UKRIO Adviser.

Overview: Higher education institutions are committed to transparency and public accountability and it is central to their mission to generate new knowledge through research.

This session will discuss how practical measures and cultural change can help ensure that Investigators and Sponsors fulfil their responsibilities. It will also explore how, in order to achieve 100% upload of results, improvements need to be made to trial registries to ensure easier access for data entry, timely and adequate support for investigators and Sponsors. Better integration between registries is essential to avoid the need for uploading results to several registries.

OPTION F

UKRIO Stakeholder Forum

Speaker: James Parry, Chief Executive, UKRIO.

Overview: The 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 particular issues and challenges.

Next steps

1. Once you have decided which sessions you would like to attend, please complete the following questionnaire to make your choices: [UKRIO 2019 parallel session choices](#). **Please complete the questionnaire as soon as possible.**
2. Your selection will then be emailed back to you within seven days.
3. **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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