

Schedule of Responses and Penalties for Higher Degree Student Research Misconduct

Purpose

This document sets out appropriate responses and penalties applicable to Part 3 of the [Academic Integrity Statute \(2015\)](#) and the [Research – Higher Degree Student Misconduct Procedure](#). The list of possible responses provided in this Schedule is hierarchical, escalating from least to most severe. The Academic Misconduct (Research) Officer (Misconduct Officer) may apply more than one response or penalty as appropriate.

Factors to consider when determining a response or penalty

The following factors should be considered when determining whether to apply a response and penalty:

- Is the student new to research?
- Is the student new to study in Australia?
- Was the student educated overseas?
- Is it a first or repeat offence?
- Was the alleged misconduct significant in scale or scope?
- Was the alleged misconduct deliberate with a clear intention of cheating?
- Was the alleged misconduct carefully and deliberately planned?
- Was the action intending to give the student a significant advantage?
- Was the action intending to give the student an unjustified advantage?
- What was the extent to which research participants, the wider community, animals and the environment were, or may have been, affected by the action?
- Were there any institutional factors that may have contributed to the alleged misconduct?

Recording of outcome

The outcome of a research misconduct investigation will be noted in the student's internal file on the University's record management system. This includes any educational or other supportive responses where no research misconduct is found or there is a finding of poor scholarship by the Misconduct Officer. The records of research misconduct investigations and outcomes may be used as evidence in subsequent investigations, for example as evidence of repeated or intentional activity.

Suggested Penalties

Determination	Range of responses that may be applied
No research misconduct or poor scholarship	(a) Dismiss the report and determine that the student has no case to answer (b) Rectification of poor scholarship (c) Direct that the work (if any) to which the allegation of research misconduct was related be accepted or revised as appropriate (d) Warning and advice for poor scholarship, and discussion with principal supervisor (e) Educational corrective action in consultation with principal supervisor, for example attending a workshop; undertaking an online module
Research misconduct	(a) Rectification of the misconduct (b) If prior to examination, the student may be directed not to submit affected research for examination or publication. This might include: a. any section(s) or all of a thesis b. any examinable component such as an exegesis or research artefact c. any work submitted or accepted for publication (c) Where there is a publication that has been submitted or published that relies on affected research the student may be directed to: a. where they are the sole or corresponding author, take the necessary steps to retract the publication b. where they are one of the co-authors, advise the corresponding author of the finding and of the need to retract the publication and for any other co-authors to be advised Evidence must be provided to the Board of Graduate Research (d) Where the finding is made after examination, an instruction may be made to amend relevant sections of the thesis/examinable components and then resubmit the thesis for examination (e) Reprimand (f) Requirement for formal apology, where appropriate (g) Educational corrective action in consultation with principal supervisor, for example attending a workshop; undertaking an online module (h) Restricted access to, or exclusion from, the University's library, network or computing facilities for a period of time where the misconduct is related to the use of any of these facilities (i) Restricted access to, or exclusion from, the University's laboratories, studios, offices, teaching spaces, buildings or

	other campus facilities, or campuses for a period of time where the misconduct is related to the use of any of these facilities (j) Reimbursement or contribution towards the cost of making good any damage, subject to the University's insurance policy (k) Withdrawal of research funding (l) Suspension or termination of scholarship (m) Another outcome appropriate to the case but with an impact less serious than suspension or termination of candidature (n) Suspension from the University without readmission, not exceeding one year. Outcome of suspension from the University for disciplinary reasons to be recorded on student's transcript (o) Termination of candidature (p) If after examination, the Misconduct Officer may direct that a record of fail be applied (q) Where a finding of research misconduct has been made after the award of a degree the Misconduct Officer may recommend to the Board of Graduate Research that the award be rescinded (r) Referral to police in case of fraud, breach of a code of law, or wilful damage to University property
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