



UNC CHARLOTTE

The Graduate School

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TO: Dr. Christine Haynes, Chair Graduate Council
CC: Members of the Graduate Council

FROM: Dr. Tom Reynolds, Dean, the Graduate School

DATE: October 3, 2017

RE: *Fostering Integrity in Research: A Report from the National Academies of Science, Engineering, Medicine.*

This Report is available at <http://www.nap.edu/21896>

Excerpts from Introduction of the Report:

The integrity of knowledge that emerges from research and scholarship is based on individual and collective adherence to core values of objectivity, honesty, openness, fairness, accountability and stewardship. Concerns about scientific research that have emerged in the scientific and general media over the past several years reinforce the need to rethink and reconsider the strategies used to support integrity in research and scholarly environments, including those used to prevent and address research and scholarship misconduct and detrimental research practices.

The research enterprise faces serious challenges in creating the appropriate conditions to foster and sustain the highest standards of integrity. To meet these challenges, deliberate steps must be taken to strengthen the self-correcting mechanisms that are an implicit part of research and scholarship. Because of the importance of graduate education in research and scholarship and the need for change, I ask the Graduate Council to consider the following proposal:

PROPOSAL: The UNC Charlotte Graduate Council support and foster an awareness and application of established professional norms and ethical principles in the performance of all activities related to research and scholarship. Encourage the University to move away from research integrity as a “compliance issue” toward a campus culture where honesty, integrity, and professionalism are valued above all else in research and scholarship.

While this proposal would be an on-going, long-term initiative, I ask the Council to begin by developing and promoting some Best Practices in two areas:

1. Best Practices in RCR for researchers and scholars in research integrity, data handling, authorship, communications, mentoring and supervising, peer review.
2. Best Practices for the University in institutional management of research integrity, climate assessment to prepare evidence-based decisions in support of integrity in research and scholarship, compliance, RCR training and education.

Once Best Practices are developed, seek opportunities to promote them as resources for faculty, staff and students to use in conducting responsible research, scholarship, and other creative activities at UNC Charlotte.

