

Research Integrity Annual Statement 2021

1) This Research Integrity (RI) Concordat seeks to provide a comprehensive national framework for good research conduct and its governance.

1.1. By signing up to the RI Concordat, the University is agreeing to the following commitments. These have been mapped against the current policies and procedures.

Research Integrity Process Review - progress			
University commitment	University policies and procedures	Action	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> maintaining the highest standards of rigour and integrity in all aspects of research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7 of the ethics policy Academic and Research integrity. RI and the Ethics Policy are discussed with new researchers at their induction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review to accommodate research students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waiting for confirmation of validating partner. Inductions undertaken by Head of Research
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensuring that research is conducted according to appropriate ethical, legal and professional frameworks, obligations and standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 2. Principles which guide Ethics at the University Paragraph 7.1, Section 7 of the ethics policy Academic and Research integrity. All research proposals are reviewed by the Ethics-Sub Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review to accommodate research students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waiting for confirmation of validating partner. This process is in place and was followed in 2020-2021.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> supporting a research environment that is underpinned by a culture of integrity and based on good governance, best practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers and European Commission HR Excellence in Research Award. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review to include research integrity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gap Analysis and Action plan 2019-2021 has been completed and submitted.

<p>and support for the development of researchers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gap Analysis and Action Plan June 2019 - June 2021. • The Head of Research and Research Fellows are available to mentor researchers in research ethics and research integrity. • Taught post graduate courses issue briefs that include an ethical statement. • Postgraduate academic staff address RI through lectures, seminars, object analysis and through discussing the ethics film on the institutional repository. • The Head of Postgraduate Studies leads on ethical matters on taught post graduate courses. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional call for HR EiR Award review took place on 5th August. Awaiting feedback. • Mentoring on a one-to-one basis has taken place. • This is in place and monitored by the Head of Postgraduate studies. • This is in place and monitored by the Head of Postgraduate studies.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using transparent, robust and fair processes to deal with allegations of research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 10 - Failure to comply with the Ethics Policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review to accommodate research students. • Publish the name of member of staff identified to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting for confirmation of validating partner. • Completed

<p>misconduct should they arise</p>		<p>act as first point of contact on research integrity matters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish named point of contact act as confidential • liaison for whistleblowers or any other person wishing to raise concerns about the integrity of research. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working together to strengthen the integrity of research and to reviewing progress regularly and openly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics Sub-Committee Terms of Reference. • Research Committee Terms of Reference. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review to accommodate research students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting for confirmation of validating partner.

2) Robust, fair and transparent processes and practices are in place to deal with allegations of research misconduct. These can be found in Section 10 of the Ethics Policy and should be read alongside the University’s Disciplinary Procedure, Fraud Policy and Whistleblowing that are available on the University staff portal. In cases, concerning undergraduate and taught postgraduate students there is the HE Academic Misconduct Procedure. These policies and procedures are reviewed on a regular basis by the University’s deliberative structure according to the Policy review schedule, which is usually every three years.

3) During 2020-2021 were 5 internal, minor, ethical queries from academic staff that were resolved following the University’s processes.

3) Up to the point of writing (19 August 2021), there have been no reported allegations of research misconduct by the University’s researchers from external sources.