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<b>Executive Responsibility:</b>	Provost & Vice-President Academic	<b>Next Review:</b> June, 2018
<b>Administrative Responsibility:</b>	Provost & Vice-President Academic	<b>Procedure:</b> <a href="#">31.10.001 Integrity &amp; Conduct</a> <a href="#">31.10.002 Misconduct</a>

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STATEMENT:

Vancouver Island University (VIU) supports and encourages the maintenance of the highest ethical standards in Research and Scholarly Activity. As such, this policy and its accompanying procedure follow the guidelines set out in the [Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research](#). This policy applies to all faculty members, students, Researchers and all other personnel, engaged in any Research and Scholarly Activity associated with the university, no matter where financial or other support originates. In addition, Researchers who apply for or hold agency funding are required by the agencies to adhere to the Tri-Agency Framework.

Primary responsibility for high standards of conduct in Research and Scholarly Activity rests with the individuals carrying out these activities following the guiding principles outlined in Procedure 31.10.001 Integrity and Conduct in Research and Scholarly Activity. Understanding of the issues involved in integrity in Research and Scholarly Activity offers a valuable means of preventing Misconduct. The university will actively promote such understanding through a variety of means, including disseminating written materials, and offering workshops and seminars.

Misconduct in research is an offense which, depending on its severity, is subject to a range of disciplinary measures up to and including dismissal or expulsion. The university is responsible for investigating allegations of Misconduct in research involving its Researchers. Allegations of Misconduct shall be dealt with in a fair, unbiased and timely manner as outlined in Procedure 31.10.002 Misconduct in Research and Scholarly Activity.

DEFINITIONS:

**Scholarly Activity:** Includes research, scholarship and professional activities associated with the university and consists of contributions made by a Researcher to his/her discipline or profession which result in the presentation of work for formal or informal peer or public review outside the institution.

**Researchers:** Faculty members, students, Researchers and all other personnel, engaged in Research and Scholarly Activity, associated with the university.

Conflict of Interest:	A Conflict of Interest may arise when activities or situations place an individual in a conflict, or perceived conflict, between the duties or responsibilities related to Research and Scholarly Activity, and personal, institutional or other interests. These interests include, but are not limited to, business, commercial or financial interests pertaining to the individual, or his or her family members, friends, or former, current or prospective professional associates.
Misconduct:	Misconduct in Research and Scholarly Activity includes, but is not limited to, any deviation or breach from the principles outlined in Policy 31.10 and its related procedures.
Tri-Agency Framework	<p>Canada's three federal research agencies that provide funding to Universities – the <i>Canadian Institute for Health Research</i> (CIHR), the <i>Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council</i> (NSERC) and the <i>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council</i> (SSHRC) - together are known as the Tri-Agencies. The Tri-Agency Framework describes agency policies and requirements related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• applying for and managing agency funds;</li> <li>• performing research and disseminating results; and,</li> <li>• the processes that institutions and agencies follow in the event of an allegation of a breach of an agency policy.</li> </ul>
Secretariat on Responsible Conduct of Research	The Secretariat on Responsible Conduct of Research (SRCR or Secretariat) provides substantive and administrative support for the <i>Panel on Research Ethics</i> (PRE), the <i>Panel on Responsible Conduct of Research</i> (PRCR), and for the three federal research granting agencies (CIHR, NSERC, and SSHRC) with respect to the <i>Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans</i> , and the <i>Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research</i> (the Framework).

#### Other Related Policies and Procedures

<a href="#">Policy 31.03</a>	VIU Research Ethics Board
<a href="#">Policy 31.07</a>	Animal Care
<a href="#">Policy 96.01</a>	Student Academic Code of Conduct

#### [Tri-Agency Framework](#)