

## Research Integrity Annual Statement 2015-16

### Supporting a culture of research integrity

1. The third commitment of the Concordat<sup>1</sup> (requiring ) was a particular focus for activities during 2015-16.
2. culture of integrity is a values-based culture in which adherence to standards and good research pr

has also been used as a starting point for local postgraduate researcher inductions (including use of the research integrity website

9.

The promotion of research integrity in student inductions (BA, MA and PhD level) at the start of each academic year, as well as integrating ethics into the teaching of several courses, including Antiquities and the Law, Interpreting Archaeological Data and Texts in Archaeology. (*Social & Historical Sciences*)

Consideration and preparation of discipline-specific guidance. (*Laws*)

Piloting a Dilemma Game session, with a cross-section of postgraduate researchers, with a view to developing advice on relevant content. Revisions were made and Doctoral Graduate Tutors and Administrators trained, so that the session could be rolled out as a regular part of departmental activities in 2016-2017. (*Social & Historical Sciences*)

## **Training**

18. The UCL Doctoral School directed that PhD researchers at UCL should undergo research integrity training. Much of the activity following this was focused on a series of locally held Dilemma Game training sessions; allowing the introduction of research integrity and discussions of issues that may arise. These have varied across UCL



documentation (application forms, risk checklists, etc) and the monitoring and reporting processes, as well as considering how the recommendations could be implemented, including the process for this.

25. Three faculties are undertaking the pilot: Laws, the Bartlett and Population Health Sciences.

### **Devolved governance pilot**

26. A devolved governance pilot is being run in the Institute of Neurology, which will consider areas relating to governance and research integrity. The pilot group consists

## Research Misconduct

32. The UCL procedure for investigating and resolving allegations of misconduct in

allowing some minor variations to fit with local circumstances and usage of terminology. Over the past year a review of the procedure has been completed, with the aim of ensuring a proportionate response to allegations and to enable greater expediency in considering allegations. The review focussed on seeking ways to clarify the role of the screening panel and to reduce the time taken to complete this stage of the process and consequently reduce the effect on all parties concerned. In light of the review, a pool of

on to form screening panels. Training has also been developed and delivered in house for the pool members to ensure fair treatment. The revised procedure came into force on 1 February 2016.

33. Further ways to expedite the screening process have also been considered in 2015-16 that have included piloting screening via correspondence for straightforward cases that was already current practice at other institutions and has proved successful. It is also intended to allow for the Named Person to be able to resolve straightforward cases at the initial assessment stage where they are not considered to be significant and there is no intent to deceive. Consideration will also be given to whether alleged research misconduct by research students should be covered by this procedure or under other UCL regulations. It is intended that some further amendments be made to the procedure to incorporate these revisions to take effect from January 2017.

### *Summary of investigations*

34. No formal investigations were undertaken during the academic year 2015-16 and no