


HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Office of Regulatory Research Compliance

November 24, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Howard University Research Community

FROM: Thomas O. Obisesan, MD. MPH 
Associate Vice President and Designated Institutional Official
Office of Regulatory Research Compliance

RE: **Office of Regulatory Research Compliance Implements Mandatory Education in Responsible Conduct of Research**

To ensure the highest ethical conduct and research integrity at Howard University, the Office of Regulatory Research Compliance (ORRC) has implemented mandatory education in the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) for all principal investigators (PIs), key research personnel, postdoctoral fellows, graduate and undergraduate students. These personnel must complete the RCR component of the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) curriculum before conducting research.

Beyond promoting research integrity, the RCR curriculum promotes compliance with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and National Science Foundation requirement for instruction in the responsible conduct of research and national ethics education norms. Guided by basic principles and best practices on research integrity, the curriculum employs an online training developed by national experts, and funded in part by the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Research Integrity. The RCR core modules include Biomedical Sciences, Humanities, Physical Sciences, and Social and Behavioral Sciences. Its components include Research Misconduct, Data Acquisition and Management, Publication Practices and Responsible Authorship, Peer Review, Mentor and Trainee Responsibilities, Conflict of Interest and Commitment, and Collaborative Research.

Additionally, the CITI is the "one-stop" shop for all HU research compliance training needs: Education on Human Research Subjects Protections; Research Animal Care and Use; Information Privacy and Security; Export control; Biosafety and Biosecurity; and Good Clinical Practice. Please, visit the ORRC at www.howard.edu/orrc for additional details.

The ORRC policy mandates RCR training for all faculty and student investigators, regardless of funding source. PI's should encourage collaborators and consultants participating in their research projects to complete the RCR Training.

CC: Chairman of Departments
Deans of Schools and Colleges

