

Research Integrity Annual Statement 2019-20

2019 Concordat to support research integrity

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8. As with other institutions, the implications of the Covid-19 lockdown had a significant impact upon research, planned and on-going, for both staff and student researchers. A great deal of work was undertaken to ensure that staff and students were able to access up-to-date guidance and support, including guidance specific to research (both planned and for on-going projects), guidance on working from home and conducting research online, and funding support for students and staff.
9. The following represents some of the communications utilised during this time to support UCL researchers

Daily Coronavirus Update communication emails

A specific website relating to Coronavirus, including support options and guidance on support and reporting for potential cases.

www.ucl.ac.uk/coronavirus/

Regularly updated webpages specific to guidance for research and researchers, including regarding research funding and guidance on how to continue research and the implications of lockdown (www.ucl.ac.uk/research-services/news/2020/sep/covid-19-impact-research-funding)

27. The UCL Safety and Wellbeing of Children and Adults at Risk Policy and Procedure (staff and students) supports researchers in being aware of their social, moral and legal obligations with regards to the safety and wellbeing of children and adults at risk involved in any UCL research activities. www.ucl.ac.uk/human-resources/policies/2020/apr/safeguarding-children-and-adults-risk-policy-and-procedure-staff-and-students

28. The Prevention of Bullying, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Policy aims to ensure a safe, welcoming and inclusive working and learning environment for all members of the UCL community. www.ucl.ac.uk/human-resources/policies/2020/apr/safeguarding-children-and-adults-risk-policy-and-procedure-staff-and-students

- to adopt a hybrid approach for handling cases of research student academic misconduct similar to current practice at some other institutions. Academic misconduct in relation to assessed work will be referred to UCL's student Academic Regulations, while misconduct in relation to work intended for publication or already published will be referred to the procedure;
- that taught student cases of academic misconduct be dealt with through UCL's student Academic Regulations;
- publication of appropriate anonymised summaries of proven cases of research misconduct similar to those published for student complaints by the Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA).

34. It is intended that the revised screening process and screening committee be set up in early 2021 to expedite this stage of UCL's process. The revised version of UCL's entire procedure will be implemented later in 2021 following appropriate consultation.

35. UCL is also keen to ensure that its scientific record is correct. It is considered that UCL should