

Research Integrity:
A Professional, Ethical, and
Social Obligation
Conference Proceedings

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***Research Integrity:
A Professional, Ethical, and Social Obligation
Conference Proceedings***

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FOREWORD

As the name and theme of this conference on research integrity imply, the proceedings of these two days focused on shared accountability among members of the scientific community and the general public.

Biomedical research is in social, political, and economic spotlights. Increasingly, both scientists and the lay public are attuned to the importance of scientific findings, failings in the process, and long-term consequences of both. Current attention to biomedical discoveries provides a unique opportunity to educate scientists, science reporters, clinicians, and the public regarding the underlying obligations that confront scientists and the public alike.

Biomedical discoveries have fostered new societal views about our human dimensions, new entrepreneurial investment opportunities, and new ethical boundaries for the conduct of science. Dialogue among scientists and those who benefit from biomedical discoveries is necessary for fostering public trust and for avoiding the dark recesses in the history of science that resulted from failure to adequately explore obligations. Thus, this conference was designed to acquaint various publics with the need for discussion of issues of research integrity while stimulating dialogue on collective obligations to ensure that research remains an ethical enterprise.

The audience was intentionally broad and included diverse representation from the scientific community, specialty groups of the public, such as science writers and reporters, and lay public. Notably, science writers and reporters have an important role in conveying information to the broader public, including informing scientists of other areas outside their own expertise. The exceptionally broad reach of the efforts of science reporters puts them in a unique position to influence public trust of biomedical research.

Scientists typically are well informed about some specialized aspect of science. However, they may be ill informed about the broader interrelations among disciplines and various publics. Academic scientists and community leaders, who are receptive to learning more about the complex interrelations surrounding research integrity, are in positions to distribute professional, ethical, and social issues to their respective students and constituents. Individuals from the spectrum of those involved in the development and marketing of medical products have an important role in the biomedical research enterprise as well. Representatives of pharmaceutical, biotechnology, equipment, and device manufacturers have both a vested interest in science and in science being understood by the public.

Our goal was to have each participant leave this conference with an enhanced appreciation for the shared professional and public accountabilities necessary to achieve the highest quality of biomedical research. Whether basic scientist, clinical researcher, science reporter, research administrator, public servant, or student of science, we are all public citizens. As such we receive maximum benefit from science when safeguards exist for ensuring research integrity.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We gratefully acknowledge the cooperation and support of many people in the development and implementation of the conference and these proceedings. The planning committee guided the content, speaker, format, and target audience selections. Special thanks are extended to John Grabowski, PhD, for his valuable assistance with the program materials. We are indebted to the excellent staff support without which the conference would have remained only an idea. Cynthia Bihm, MBA; Barbara Booth, BA; Phyllis Boyer; Ria Griffin, BA; Victoria Hawkins, RN, MSN; Nancy Jugueta; Sarah McNeil, MS; Lawrence Nieman, MA; and Joyce Wagner, MA - - all affiliated with the University of Texas-Houston School of Nursing, were assisted by Clarice Anthony, Prairie View A & M University, and Jenny Yi, UT-Houston School of Public Health. We also thank Joe Smith, UT-Houston School of Public Health, for his assistance with audio and videotaping the conference.

DISCLAIMER

Please note that these proceedings were transcribed from audiotapes of the conference. Proper names were not verified for correct spelling; they were typed literally from audio interpretation. Gaps in the text are the result of lost dialogue during audiotape changes and from participants failing to address questions and comments through a microphone.

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

March 11, 1999: The Ethical Social Contract Among Researchers: Professional View

- 8:00 - 8:30 Registration, continental breakfast, networking
- 8:30 - 8:40 Welcome - Thomas Burks, PhD, UT-Houston, Executive Vice President for Research & Academic Affairs
- 8:40 - 9:10 **PHS Perspective on Scientific Misconduct and Research Integrity** - Chris Pascal, JD, Acting Director of the Office of Research Integrity
- 9:10 - 10:00 **The Roots and Origins of Scientific Integrity**
Stanley Reiser, MD, PhD, Griff T. Ross Professor of Humanities & Technology in Health Care, UT-Houston Medical School
- 10:00- 10:15 Break
- 10:15 -11:15 Scientific Ethics and the Responsible Conduct of Research: An Introduction – **Ruth Bulger, PhD, Vice President for Research, Uniform Services, University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD**
- 11:15 -12:30 **Ethics of Authorship and Publication** -**Moderator:** Charles Ericsson, MD, Professor of Medicine, UT-Houston Medical School, Editor, *Journal of Travel Medicine* **Panelists:** Joseph Eichberg, PhD, Professor of Biophysical and Biochemical Sciences at the University of Houston and Deputy Chief Editor of the *Journal of Neurochemistry*; Alan Price, PhD, Chief, Investigations Branch, Office of Research Integrity; Karen Davis, PhD, Postdoctoral fellow, UT-Houston Medical School
- 12:30 - 1:30 Lunch
- 1:30 - 2:30 **Records and Data** - Ruth Bulger, PhD, Vice President for Research, Uniform Services, University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD
- 2:30 - 3:30 **Ethics of Randomized Clinical Trials** - Harold Vanderpool, PhD, ThM, Professor, Preventive Medicine & Community Health, Member, Institute for the Medical Humanities, University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston and Dorothy K. Macfarlane, MD, Acting Director, Division of Research Investigations, Office of Research Integrity
- 3:30 - 3:45 Break

3:45 - 5:15 Breakout discussion groups will be formed for more in-depth discussion of the day's topics. Groups will be facilitated by Drs. Reiser, Bulger, Vanderpool, Macfarlane, and ORI Acting Director, Chris Pascal

5:15 – 7:00 Reception

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

March 12, 1999: The Ethical Social Contract with Society: Public View

- 8:00 - 8:45 Registration, continental breakfast, networking
- 8:45 - 9:00 Welcome - Joseph Jones, PhD, Dean of the Graduate School and Professor of Biology, Texas Southern University
- 9:00 - 10:30 The Public View of Biomedical Research - Moderator: Arthur Vailas, PhD, Vice Chancellor for Research and Intellectual Property Management, University of Houston System and Vice President for Research, University of Houston - Panelists: US Congressman Kenneth E. Bentsen, Jr.; Leonard Zwelling, MD, Associate Vice President of Research Administration, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center; Geoffrey Cox, PhD, Chairman and CEO, Aronex Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- 10:30 - 11:00 Break
- 11:00 - 12:30 Science vs. Mass Appeal: John Glenn's Re-entry into Space - Moderator: M. David Low, MD, PhD, President of UT- Houston Health Science Center - Panelists: John B. Charles, PhD, Manager, Planning and Integration, Discipline Scientist for Human Life Sciences on STS-95; Mark Carreau, Reporter, Houston Chronicle National Desk
- 12:30 - 1:30 Lunch
- 1:30 - 2:30 Setting the Biomedical Research Agenda – Mary Groesch, PhD, Senior Health Science Policy Analyst in the Office of Science Policy at the National Institutes of Health
- 2:30 - 2:45 Break
- 2:45 - 4:00 Industry Sponsorship: Why Does the Pied Piper Pipe? - Moderator: M.L.J. (Jack) Crawford, PhD, Professor, Ophthalmology, UT-Houston Medical School - Panelists: Chris Pascal, JD, Acting Director of the Office of Research Integrity; George Phillips, PhD, Professor, Biochemistry & Cell Biology, Rice University; Grant Ko, MD, Clinical Project Director, Schering-Plough Research Institute
- 4:00 - 4:15 Conference Summary - John Grabowski, PhD, Professor and Director of Substance Abuse Research Center, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, UT- Houston Medical School