**University of Baltimore**

**Responsible Conduct of Research Training and Oversight Plan**

**for Research Funded by the National Science Foundation**

1. **Statement of Intent** – The National Science Foundation, in its Grantee Standards states:

*The responsible and ethical conduct of research (RCR) is critical for excellence, as well as public trust, in science and engineering. Consequently, education in RCR is considered essential in the preparation of future scientists and engineers. Section 7009 of the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science (COMPETES) Act (42 U.S.C. 1862o–1 requires that ‘‘each institution that applies for financial assistance from the [National Science] Foundation for science and engineering research or education describe in its grant proposal a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers participating in the proposed research project.” [[1]](#footnote-1)*

The document that follows is intended to provide guidance to UB researchers seeking NSF funding.

1. **Training**
   1. An agreement has been reached with the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) to access their institutional membership to the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI). This agreement guarantees access to any UB faculty, staff or student to on-line training on RCR, as well as IRB training and Human Subjects Research in Social Sciences modules.
   2. All faculty, staff and students working on NSF-supported research projects will be required to successfully complete the RCR training modules with a score of 70% or more before their employment contracts will be approved. Evidence of approval in the form of a CITI certificate will be required.
   3. All other UB personnel will be encouraged to undertake the training modules, but will not be required to do so.
2. **Oversight**
   1. The Office of Sponsored Research will be responsible for oversight of the implementation of this plan and enforcing compliance with completion of the CITI RCR training modules before approving employment contracts on NSF-funded projects.
   2. All claims of research misconduct will be handled by the Office of the Provost, pursuant to the policy on Standards for the Conduct of Scholarly Research (<http://www.ubalt.edu/policies/index.cfm?page=71#156>).
   3. All matters related to the pursuit of research with human subjects will be forwarded to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) for review at their next standing meeting.
   4. All matters related to copyrights, patents and other intellectual property will be handled by the Office of the Provost, pursuant to the Intellectual Property Policy (<http://www.ubalt.edu/policies/index.cfm?page=241>).
3. **Point of Contact** – For questions regarding this plan, RCR training and research with human subjects, please contact Margarita M. Cardona, Director of Sponsored Research, Office of the Provost (410-837-6191, mcardona@ubalt.edu).

1. National Science Foundation, Award Administration Standards effective January 1, 2010, Chapter VI.B., downloaded December 14, 2009 from <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf10_1/aag_4.jsp>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)