Research Ethics Seminar Series
This seminar series focuses on important issues in research and scholarship and provides opportunities for faculty and graduate students to explore challenging ethical issues that arise in the pursuit of knowledge. Previous seminars have focused on plagiarism, social responsibility, collaboration, mentoring, authorship and human subjects.

The Fall 2007 Research Ethics Seminar Series is scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of the month (9/12, 10/10, 11/14) from Noon – 1:30 p.m. in SSE-1410.

Opportunity for Graduate Students!

Research Ethics/Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Interdisciplinary Studies Course (INT-S 690,1-unit, Schedule # 19876) introduces:
- Research Misconduct
- Data Management
- Use of Animal Subjects
- Use of Human Subjects
- Conflict of Interest and Commitment
- Authorship, Publication, Peer Review
- Collaboration
- Mentoring

Student Comments
1) “This course touched on all the ethical issues that are important for scientists in all disciplines in a stimulating way with fun, interesting case examples.”

2) “A deeply engaging course that highlights issues that must be addressed on a regular basis.”

3) “I had not realized how dynamic and diverse the definition of ‘ethics’ was; truly an eye-opener.”

Events & News

2007 Albert W. Johnson University Research Lecturer
Dr. Walter C. Oechel, Professor of Biology and Director of the Global Change Research Group. “Global Change: Is the World Beyond Repair?” on videostream

Promoting Student Research
The University Research Council’s Student Research Committee will promote the dissemination of student research and coordinate a University-wide Student Research Symposium scheduled for spring 2008. The Student Research Symposium will showcase student research and serve as the forum to select students to compete in the CSU Student Research Competition.

Policy Updates!

Integrity in Research and Scholarship
SDSU’s policy on Integrity in Research and Scholarship was recently updated and approved by the Senate.

Conflict of Interest
A financial interest disclosure form is required of all “key personnel” conducting research funded by DHHS and NSF. The Research Investigator Conflict of Interest policy was recently updated and includes new reporting requirements associated with the funding period.

Compliance Updates

Human Research Protections
- Do you plan to use human subjects in your research? If so, you must obtain IRB approval prior to conducting your study.
- Before developing a protocol to submit for IRB review, visit the HRPP web site and complete the Human Subjects Tutorial.
- Obtaining IRB approval can be challenging. Please review the Guidance Manual in advance of developing your protocol.

Biosafety in Research/Teaching
Do you conduct:
- research involving recombinant DNA?
- research/teaching involving biological materials or potentially hazardous materials?

If so, the Institutional Biosafety Committee must approve the proposed research as per NIH and CDC biosafety guidelines. For guidance, please review the SDSU Biosafety Manual.

Material Transfer Agreement (MTA)
What’s an MTA?
The MTA:
- Facilitates collaboration among scientists at different institutions.
- Allows for transfer of research materials used by one investigator that may be useful to research at SDSU or another institution. MTAs generally focuses on biological materials.
- Advance approval of the Authorized Institutional Official within the Division of Research Affairs is necessary, regardless of whether SDSU is the recipient or provider of the ‘material’
- More Info