

**Duke Global Health Institute Scholarly Culture and Accountability Plan  
(DGHI SCAP)**

Version: January 2023

Duke University is committed to maintaining the highest quality and integrity in all of its scientific enterprises. Because of this commitment, the School of Medicine is required to have mechanisms to guarantee the responsible management and critical review of scientific data. This is analogous to the School's obligation to ensure lab safety, proper clinical study procedures, and the appropriate use of animals in research.

We have created this Scholarly Culture and Accountability Plan to give you – our faculty and staff – an overview of the way our unit operates and the underlying principles and expectations for the research process and research community interactions.

## **1. Guiding Principles**

The Duke Global Health Institute (DGHI), established in 2006, brings knowledge from every corner of Duke University to bear on the most important global health issues of our time. DGHI was established as a University-wide institute to coordinate, support, and implement Duke's interdisciplinary research, education, and service activities related to global health. DGHI is committed to developing and employing new models of research and education that engage partners and find innovative solutions to global health challenges. DGHI works to reduce health disparities in our local community and worldwide. Recognizing that many global health problems stem from economic, social, environmental, political, and health care inequalities, DGHI brings together interdisciplinary teams from across Duke's schools and programs to solve complex health problems and to train the next generation of global health leaders.

Our vision – academic excellence to meet the global health challenges of today and tomorrow to achieve health equity worldwide – can be achieved only when we conduct the highest caliber research with ethical rigor. We want to ensure that our faculty, staff and students have the resources and knowledge they need to do their work at these high standards. We take research integrity very seriously and believe research teams should constantly be engaging in discussions about research integrity and accountability.

In alignment with the leadership of the Duke School of Medicine, DGHI embraces these important principles:

1. We foster an environment where scientific integrity is the highest priority.
2. We emphasize high-quality reproducible data and results.

3. We value constructive critiques of research.
4. We encourage open discussion of any concerns regarding research conduct or integrity.

## 2. Structure of DGHI within Duke

DGHI sits at the intersection of the campus and health system at Duke. From this unique perch, we have access to resources across the University. Duke University has two Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) and the choice of which is used for DGHI research protocols will depend on the primary appointment of the principal investigator and/or the nature of the human subjects research in question. Both IRBs are accredited and have Federalwide Assurance numbers (FWAs). Clinical Research Units (CRUs) and Oversight Organizations (OOs) are the operating business units responsible for the integrity, financial accountability, regulatory compliance, quality, and academic productivity of studies in the Duke Health System (DUHS) IRB. DGHI has an Oversight Organization for our investigators conducting minimal risk research outside of the Duke Health system, and we are happy to work with study teams as they move through the IRB process, including ensuring that all research personnel receive proper training.

Many of our global health research projects involve international collaborators, and any such research protocol reviewed by the DUHS IRB will also be submitted for IRB/Ethics Committee approvals at our partnering institutions unless deemed exempt in accordance with partnering institutions policies.

As DGHI personnel, you are required to know and follow the Duke University Code of Conduct, based on our shared values of respect, trust, inclusion, discovery and excellence:

<https://values.duke.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/60/2019/08/Code-of-Conduct-BoT-Endorsed-December-1-2018-FINAL-One-Hotline.pdf>

<https://values.duke.edu/>

Within DGHI, Gerald Bloomfield and Kelly Deal lead the Oversight Organization for DUHS IRB protocols and are available to answer your research questions. Duke Research Integrity Officers are also available for consultation and to assist with specific issues around research integrity. Research navigators, funded through NIH's Clinical and Translational Science Award program, are also available to assist you in finding research resources and answering questions.

- Gerald Bloomfield: [gerald.bloomfield@duke.edu](mailto:gerald.bloomfield@duke.edu) / (919) 668-8702
- Kelly Deal: [Kelly.deal@duke.edu](mailto:Kelly.deal@duke.edu) / (919) 681-7159
- Duke Research Integrity Officers: [dukecoi@dm.duke.edu](mailto:dukecoi@dm.duke.edu) / (919) 684-3121
- MyResearchNavigator: [myresearchnavigators@duke.edu](mailto:myresearchnavigators@duke.edu) / (919) 684-2243, option 4

### **3. Promoting culture of accountability and respect**

#### **A. Education of faculty, students and staff**

It is our goal at DGHI to infuse our thoughts and actions with the principles of respect, beneficence and justice as denoted in the [Belmont report](#) (1979). All of our teaching, mentoring, and working relationships should be free from coercion or harassment, and conducted with an understanding of, and sensitivity to, multiple cultural contexts. Relationships with our partners (within and outside of Duke, local and global) will be respectful. We intend to engage in exchanges for mutual benefit, promote dialogues among equals, and listen to each other in a manner that promotes mutual trust and respect. Everyone involved in research is expected to complete required ethical trainings on a regular basis. Compliance is monitored by DGHI.

DGHI offers two degree programs (undergraduate co-major and minor in global health, and Master of Science in Global Health), which both include training in research ethics. Undergraduate co-majors and minors complete a semester-long course in global health ethics, which includes training in research ethics. This requirement must be met prior to engaging in the global health experiential learning activity. Masters students complete two Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) forums during program orientation, take a semester-long course in global health research ethics, and participate in a fieldwork preparation course that emphasizes skills that promote research accountability (e.g., communication, data management, quality control). All students conducting thesis research work under the mentorship of a faculty principal investigator (PI), who is ultimately responsible for research integrity in the team. Finally, DGHI offers a partial fellowship to select Duke doctoral students undertaking global health research for their dissertations. These students all engage in 12-18 hours of RCR training to meet their degree requirements, and they are working in collaboration with, or under the mentorship of a DGHI faculty member. Students and trainees not receiving degrees through DGHI will complete the requirements of their home school/department.

#### **B. Scientific rigor and reproducibility**

These principles are the foundation of good research. DGHI and Duke University have many resources available to assist in the process.

##### **1. Communication**

Principal investigators should develop and clearly communicate good research practices and processes within their research group. They set an example for their team, emphasizing high quality research, without pressure or focus on obtaining specific results. Community engagement and dissemination of research results is an extremely important aspect of our global health work, involving not only the standard academic and scientific venues, but also our local and/or international partners.

##### **2. Methods & design**

Each research study's research methods and design should be rigorous and solidly based in your specific field of scientific training. If you have questions about methodology, please speak with an appropriate colleague (e.g. a member of DGHI's [Research Design and Analysis Core](#)). Whether you are discussing your work casually or presenting more formally, we encourage constructive criticism and lively debate.

### 3. Data management, storage, provenance

All data should be stored and appropriately indexed to allow access in the future. Please review Duke's data management plan (DMP) resources for guidance: <https://dosi.duke.edu/advancing-scientific-integrity-services-and-training/accountability-research/data-management-plan>.

If you need assistance setting up your data collection, management or storage, please contact DGHI IT via the help desk (<https://oit.duke.edu/help/trinity-request-help>), or DGHI's data architect in RDAC. They can further clarify these instructions and discuss other needs that might be specific to your project.

The Duke Office of Clinical Research (DOCR) and the Duke Social Science Research Institute (SSRI) offer assistance (some free and some paid) for many data-related project tasks, including consultancies on data collection and data storage. When looking for appropriate research software, it is best to first consider companies with whom Duke has a BAA, such as RedCap or Qualtrics.

### C. Voicing Concerns

Every individual engaged in research is responsible for familiarizing themselves with this plan and should conduct their research in a manner that is compatible with this plan. If you have concerns about anything, it is preferable to work within your research group if possible. Lapses in communication, or concerns about research integrity, can be brought forward to Gerald Bloomfield and/or Alissa Wallace, for discussion and problem-solving.

If you have concerns and are in any way uncomfortable contacting DGHI leadership, there are other ways at Duke to raise concerns:

- The School of Medicine uses IntegrityLine (1-800-826-8109) a service that can be used by anyone to anonymously express concerns about research integrity or professionalism.
- Duke Research Integrity: <https://medschool.duke.edu/research/ethics-integrity-compliance/researchintegrity-office>
- Occupational and Environmental Safety Office: <https://www.safety.duke.edu/>
- Duke Animal Care and Use Program: <https://sites.duke.edu/oawa/>
- Duke Clinical and Translational Research: <https://medschool.duke.edu/research/clinical-and-translational-research>

- Office for Institutional Equity: <https://oie.duke.edu/>

#### 4. Additional resources at or beyond Duke:

Advancing Scientific Integrity, Services and Training Office:  
<https://dosi.duke.edu/ASIST>

The Duke Faculty Handbook outlines Duke's Policies Related to Research and Research Misconduct:  
[https://provost.duke.edu/wp-content/uploads/FHB\\_App\\_P.pdf](https://provost.duke.edu/wp-content/uploads/FHB_App_P.pdf)

Duke University now requires all faculty and staff engaged in research to participate in responsible conduct of research (RCR) education. RCR programs are also required for all graduate students and post-docs, and recipients of NIH training grants, a Research Ethics course is required for medical students during their 3rd year of scholarly research, and an RCR program is required for Duke undergraduate students supported by NSF or NIH research funding.

<https://dosi.duke.edu/RCR>

<https://gradschool.duke.edu/professional-development/programs/responsible-conduct-research/rcr-requirements-and-deadlines/>

A research integrity session is included in the School's new faculty orientation.  
<https://medschool.duke.edu/about-us/faculty-resources/faculty-development/our-programs/new-faculty-orientation>

MyRESEARCHhome is a customizable dashboard designed to guide researchers through the Duke research system with additional support provided by the Office of Research Initiatives. MRH.duke.edu

[MyResearch Path](#) is a “roadmap for navigating research policy, process, and resources at Duke University”. You can find information and links to resources for all stages of your research.

The School of Medicine and other Duke Schools have recently acquired iThenticate licenses for research faculty. Please contact [asistoffice@duke.edu](mailto:asistoffice@duke.edu) (if you are in the School of Medicine) or [researchinitiatives@duke.edu](mailto:researchinitiatives@duke.edu) (for other Schools) to inquire about licenses if you are interested in scanning manuscripts, grant applications, or thesis documents through this plagiarism detection software.

The Trent Center for Bioethics, Humanities, and History of Medicine teaches courses and provides consultation to Duke faculty, students, and staff in bioethics and research ethics. <https://trentcenter.duke.edu/>

The Office of Research Integrity within the Department of Health and Human Services maintains an active website on the scientific community and culture with current events, articles, and resources. <https://ori.hhs.gov/>