Retraction Watch

Grad student who confessed to falsifying data barred from government funding

Nearly five months after a graduate student at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine spontaneously confessed to fabricating data, the U.S. Office of Research Integrity (ORI) said today that she has agreed to exclude herself from receiving government funding for three years.

According to ORI’s National Institutes of Health, she engaged in research misconduct by intentionally falsifying and/or fabricating data reported in the following three (3) published papers and four (4) meeting presentations:

1. "Nonnal diet1. Regulates Germ Granules by Counteracting Domain in Zebrafish Primordial Germ Cells" published in Cell Reports has been retracted with the agreement of all authors.
2. "Oncophosphodephosphate regulates cdkn1a and microtubule association during early zebrafish embryogenesis," published in Development has a correction.
3. "The regulatory factor sticky ball associates with the centromere and promotes microtubule reorganization to establish the correct axis in zebrafish," published online in Development has an expression of concern.

June 2nd 2016
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research

- Institutional responsibility to ensure research is carried out safely and in compliance with campus, state and federal policies and laws.

What's the difference

- **Ethics** = the duties of scientists to the public, to peers, and to themselves in conduct of their profession.
- **Compliance** = acting in accord with standards, requirements or policies.
Some Key Issues in Ethics & Compliance

- Using Animal & Human Subjects
- Collaboration & Authorship
- Data Ownership and Confidentiality
- Peer Review
- Plagiarism
- Conflicts of Interest
- Whistleblowing

Your Compliance Responsibilities

- Laboratory Safety Plan
  - Safety management process
  - Training: yours & students working for you
  - Specific SOPs for hazardous materials, processes, and equipment

- Animal Care & Use
  - Training: general & project specific
  - Update OHS Risk assessment
  - Know and follow protocols
More Compliance Responsibilities

• Biological Safety
  – Project specific training
  – Adhere to Protocols

• Ethics training by your advisor
  – HHS, NSF, USDA funding your assistantship

• State ethics training, Title IX, Clery Act, Financial Conflict of Interest reporting

Some interesting sites to visit

• Office of Research Integrity
  http://ori.hhs.gov

• Key Issues in Ethics
  http://nationalethicscenter.org (from UIUC)

• Search Research Integrity
Questions?

Work Hard, Do Great Things!