

Collaborative Research Standards (interim)

1. Introduction

The *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (Australian Code)* was substantially revised in 2018 and the *Macquarie University Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (Macquarie Research Code)* subsequently amended and issued in July 2019.

The *Macquarie Research Code* articulates broad principles and responsibilities which underpin the responsible conduct of research across varied research contexts and disciplines. It is in place to ensure that research being undertaken under the auspices of Macquarie University is conducted with the highest standards of ethics, responsibility and integrity.

The detail provided in the former *Australian Code* and *Macquarie Research Code* about how the principles and responsibilities of the *Macquarie Research Code* should be applied to specific elements or stages of the research process (in this case to Collaborative Research) is being refined and clarified. This detail will be included in accompanying guides being written by the Australian Research Council (ARC), National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and Universities Australia. Until each guide is issued and the associated policies and guidance at Macquarie University are adjusted, researchers are expected to refer to the relevant chapter of the former *Macquarie Research Code* (reproduced in section 4).

The *Macquarie University Research Code Complaints, Breaches and Investigation Procedure* describes how deviations from the principles and responsibilities outlined in the *Macquarie Research Code* (including failing to meet these standards) must be reported, assessed, investigated and managed.

2. Purpose

These standards outline how the principles and responsibilities articulated in the *Macquarie Research Code* should be applied to Collaborative Research with other Organisations.

3. Scope

- a. These standards apply to anyone who conducts research or research support under the auspices of Macquarie University, as per the *Macquarie Research Code*.
- b. While these standards establish the regular expectations for all Macquarie researchers, additional requirements may be imposed on those involved with external/overseas institutions, external funding bodies or publishers, external collaborators, or where required by local legislation, for example in the case of HDR Candidates subject to cotutelle or joint PhD agreements or researchers with a conjoint appointment.
- c. Researchers may consult with a Research Integrity Advisor (RIA) at any time for advice in relation to the implementation of these standards.

4. Chapter 15. Collaborative Research with other Organisations

Duplicated from the first edition of the *Macquarie University Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, Part A: Principles and Practices to Encourage Responsible Research Conduct*

1. Macquarie University encourages collaborative research within and beyond the University, nationally and internationally.
2. Where an external research collaboration exists that requires a formal agreement, the agreement should cover:
 - a. ownership of intellectual property (see the University's [Intellectual Property Policy](#));
 - b. ownership, location and access to the data and materials;
 - c. confidentiality;
 - d. identification and management of conflicts of interest;
 - e. protocols for the dissemination of research outputs;
 - f. sharing of commercial returns, and
 - g. responsibility for ethics and research safety.
3. Researchers should keep a record of all negotiations with collaborators and any arrangements that are made. This record may take the form of copies of relevant email correspondence.
4. Researchers involved in a collaborative research project must familiarise themselves, and comply, with the written agreement governing the collaboration and all policies and agreements affecting the project.
5. Researchers must disclose to their collaborators, as soon as possible, any actual or apparent conflicts of interest relating to any aspect of a collaborative project.

4. Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
ARC	Australian Research Council
Australian Code	<i>Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research 2018</i>
Australian Guide	<i>Guide to Managing and Investigating Potential Breaches of the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research</i>
Macquarie Research Code	<i>Macquarie University Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research</i>
Macquarie Research Code Procedure	<i>Macquarie University Research Code Complaints, Breaches and Investigation Procedure</i>
RIA	Research Integrity Advisor: A member of Macquarie University staff who has been nominated by the DVC(R) to promote the responsible conduct of research and provide advice to those with concerns or complaints about potential breaches of the

Abbreviation	Definition
	<i>Macquarie Research Code</i> . Research Integrity Advisors are people with research experience, wisdom, analytical skills, empathy, knowledge of the University's policy and management structure, and familiarity with the accepted practices in research.

5. Key related documents

5.1 Macquarie University policies and standards

- a. Macquarie University Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research
- b. Macquarie University Research Code Complaints, Breaches and Investigation Procedure
- c. Authorship Standards
- d. Conflict of Interest Policy (and Standards)
- e. Higher Degree Research Supervision Policy
- f. Peer Review Standards
- g. Publication and Dissemination Standards
- h. Research Data Management Standards
- i. Supervision of Students Undertaking Research

5.2 External documents

- a. Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research 2018
- b. Australian Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes
- c. Guide to Managing and Investigating Potential Breaches of the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research
- d. Guidelines for Ethical Research in Australian Indigenous Studies
- e. National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research

6. Commencement and amendment history

6.1	Contact Officer	Research Integrity Office
6.2	Implementation Officer	Director, Research Ethics and Integrity
6.3	Approval Authority / Authorities	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
6.4	Date of Commencement	July 2019 – Interim standards under review
6.5	Documents Superseded by this document	This document presents chapter 15 of the former <i>Macquarie University Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research</i> 2014 and will be updated following the release of the <i>Collaborative Research: A guide supporting the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research</i> (NHMC, ARC and Universities Australia, 2019)