

UPSC's policy for quality assurance of research

In order to further improve the quality of research environment and to minimize the risks for any scientific dishonesty within UPSC, the management has now produced a policy document.

Researchers at UPSC are requested to follow the recommendations stated below:

- Primary data should be saved for 10 years
- Each co-author must approve publications common to the group before they are sent in for review (in accordance to the norms followed scientific journals)
- All supervisors must guarantee that there is a open and critical discussion about the results and primary data within the group
- Supervisors are encouraged to make use of the available competence, primarily within UPSC to have critical comments and discussions around the results intended to be published
- If any member of a research group is not satisfied about the ethical and scientific level maintained within the group, before particular results are published, the person concerned should contact the respective prefects of their institutions, who in turn will decide how the issue will be handled.
- If there prevails some suspicion about scientific irregularity has occurred in work that has already been published, all the employees have the obligation to inform about this to the Dean of the respective faculty.
- In case of any rumors spreading regarding some kind of cheating in some research project, the prefect of the respective institution must be informed immediately. The prefect in turn should immediately start an investigation to verify the truth around the rumor.
- During the time an inquiry around the cheating is ongoing, one is obliged to mention this in any application for research grants for the areas associated with this inquiry.
- Every person that does research within UPSC should have strict demands on objectivity, honesty and integrity.

Endeavor objectives

It is the responsibility of the prefects and the board to organize activity to enable the constant improvement of the quality of research. Therefore:

- All group leaders (PIs) should be active in research work as long as possible
- Each supervisor should encourage and stimulate scientific discussions within and between research groups at UPSC.
- All employees, especially graduate students and postdoctoral researchers along with young scientists must be given the possibility to participate in courses about research ethics and courses with elements about scientific theory.
- The management of UPSC will implement an effort to maintain an open and creative environment for discussions.

Scientific Dishonesty

Scientific dishonesty means that intentionally and in a misleading manner making a deviation from the scientific demands or to deliberately break against the generally accepted ethical norms. Mentioned below are examples of scientific dishonesty , according to the policy program Dnr 190-2748-04 of Umeå University:

- * Forgery and fabrication
- * Plagiarism
- * Concealing results/information
- * Complicate scientific review
- * Unauthorized usage of information received in confidence
- * Unjust claim of authorship or changing the order of authors in publications
- * Neglecting accepted recommendations about obtaining permission from authorities concerned (ex. The Ethics Commission)

It is important to point out that there is a difference of principle between mistakes done in good faith and cheating (see Umeå Universities policy).