



FIU

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
Miami's public research university

To: FIU Graduate Students and Graduate Faculty Mentors

From: Jonathan G. Tubman, Associate Dean,
University Graduate School

Date: July 7, 2008

Re: Responsible Conduct of Research Certification

Starting July 15, 2008, FIU graduate students who file thesis or dissertation proposals with the Research University Graduate School (RUGS) must provide with the appropriate forms (i.e., the M-2 or D-3 form) a training certificate documenting completion of an appropriate, discipline-specific Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training course and exam. FIU now provides both faculty and students access to the CITI Course in RCR designed to be used by research institutions or organizations and the on-line, self-paced modules provide a comprehensive basic course in RCR. This course was partially funded by DHHS's Office of Research Integrity. Instructions regarding how to access the training course can found on the FIU Office of Research Integrity (ORI) webpage at: <http://www.ori.fiu.edu/responsibleConduct.html>

This change in RUGS policy is designed to expand significantly the RCR program initiated several years ago by former Associate Vice President for Research, Dr. Kelsey Downum, from approximately 100 graduate students per year, to nearly all graduate students conducting research at our University. This change will be implemented with minimal costs to University staff, faculty or students. Florida International University promotes values associated with responsible conduct of research, including high standards of research ethics and investigator accountability in research planning, implementation, student training and information dissemination. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to provide safe research environments, which foster the values of a collegial and responsible intellectual and scientific community.