

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

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To: All personnel engaged in research

From: Mike Thomashow

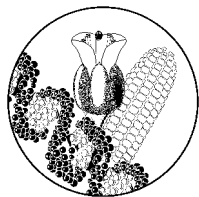
Re: Guidelines for Integrity in Research and Creative Activities

In response to a very serious case of professional misconduct by a MSU graduate student, who was subsequently tried and convicted in federal court to a prison term, the University established a task force charged with writing guidelines on graduate student advising and mentoring and on integrity in research and creative activities. Both guidelines were accepted by the University and are published on the web sites of the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies and of the Graduate School. A copy of the *Guidelines for Integrity in Research and Creative Activities* is enclosed and a copy can be found at: <http://www.msu.edu/user/gradschl/all/ris04activities.pdf>

The *Guidelines for Integrity in Research and Creative Activities* address not only graduate students but all personnel engaged in research and creative activities. Granting agencies, professional societies, and editors of professional journals have recognized that breaches in professional ethics are more common than previously thought and that broad educational measures have to be taken to counteract such tendencies. In this spirit, the task force recommended that the *Guidelines for Integrity in Research and Creative Activities* be read by all members of the University who are engaged in research or creative activities, that they be discussed with academic advisors or supervisors, and that a statement be signed that the guidelines have been read and understood. These signed statements are to be retained by the respective academic units.

At the Academic Personnel Meeting of October 5, 2005, the PRL faculty decided to implement these recommendations. Please read the enclosed *Guidelines for Integrity in Research and Creative Activities* and make a time to discuss them with your supervisor. Each principal investigator will discuss the guidelines either individually with each member of his/her group or in a lab meeting, following which you will be asked to sign the enclosed acknowledgement. Please retain the guidelines for your records and submit the completed acknowledgement form to Karen Cline, who will keep it on file.

Thank you for your participation in this important assignment.



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