

## **Marian University Research Misconduct Inquiry Committee Charter**

The mission of the Marian University Research Inquiry Misconduct Committee (IC) is to participate in the institution's response to allegations of research misconduct, including fabrication, falsification, and plagiarism. The committee is guided by the institution's Catholic and Franciscan values and regulations outlined in the employee handbook, relevant internal policies and federal regulations including 42 CFR §93.309.

### Institutional Structure & Support

The IC is administratively located within the Office of Research Operations, Integrity & Compliance within the Research & Scholarship Administration of the Division of Academic Affairs. The IC is led by the Research Integrity Officer (RIO), who is appointed by the Assistant Provost for Research & Scholarship. The IC is financially and operationally supported by the Research & Scholarship Administration and directly reports to the Assistant Provost for Research & Scholarship on behalf of the Provost, who serves as the Institutional Official.

### Authority & Purview

Under the authority of the Institutional Official, the IC is empowered to conduct a preliminary inquiry of research misconduct allegations to determine if enough evidence exists to warrant a formal investigation. The IC, in consultation with the Assistant Provost for Research & Scholarship, will determine into which of the following categories the matter falls:

- a. Unfounded allegation, *i.e.* charges are found to be frivolous, mischievous, or malicious.
- b. Uninformed allegation, *i.e.* research misconduct due to honest error or differences of opinion.
- c. Legitimate allegation, *i.e.* sufficient evidence exists to warrant a formal investigation.

All pertinent records related to IC deliberations and actions are kept on behalf of the committee by the Marian University Office of Research Operations, Integrity & Compliance in accordance with institutional, state and federal regulations.

### Composition

In accordance with federal statute, composition of the IC includes the following, each of whom have voting rights:

- The Research Integrity Officer
- At least two tenured or non-tenured faculty members derived from various colleges and with various educational backgrounds and University ranks (appointed by the Assistant Provost for Research & Scholarship)
- At least two ad hoc members (appointed by the RIO)

This charter is enacted by signature this 17 day of November in the year 2023 by the Institutional Official and supersedes any and all other guiding documents of the Marian University Research Misconduct IC.



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Alan Silva, PhD  
Executive Vice President & Provost