2018 Ethics Studio: The Four Guiding Principles and RIOT

Tim Mattingsbrooke and Kylie Smith

Wednesday 16th May 2018
• The Four Guiding Principles of Ethical Conduct in Research
• Research Integrity Online Training (RIOT)
• Questions.
• The National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2007 (Updated May 2015) outlines four guiding principles of ethical conduct in research on pages 9-11.

• The four guiding principles encompass:
  – Research Merit and Integrity
  – Justice
  – Beneficence
  – Respect

Research Merit and Integrity

• Research with merit is:
  – Justifiable by its potential benefit
  – Designed using methods appropriate for achieving the aims of the research
  – Based on thorough study of current literature
  – Designed to ensure the respect of the participants
  – Conducted (or supervised) by researchers with experience, qualifications and competence.
  – Uses resources appropriate for the research

• Research with integrity:
  – Searches for knowledge and understanding
  – Follows recognized principles of research conduct
  – Conducts research that is honest and transparent
  – Disseminates and communicates the results in ways that permit scrutiny and contributes to the great good of the community
• Research that is just ensures:
  – The scope and objectives of the research are taken into account
  – The process of recruiting participants is fair
  – There is no unfair burden of participation
  – There is a fair distribution of and access to the benefits of participation
  – There is no exploitation of participants in the conduct of the research
  – The research outcomes are made accessible to the research participants in a way that is timely and clear.
• All research must ensure ‘the potential benefits are outweighed by the risks’.

• The potential benefit of the research must justify and inform of any risks of harm or discomfort to the participants and the wider community while in the research.

• The researcher is also responsible for:
  – Designing the research to minimise risks of harm and discomfort to participants
  – Clarifying to participants the potential benefits and risks of the research; and
  – The welfare of the participants while in the research.
Respect

• Having due regard for the welfare, beliefs, perceptions, customs and cultural heritage, both individual and collective, of those involved in research.

• Respect the privacy, confidentiality and cultural sensitivities of the participants and, where relevant, of their communities.

• Giving due scope, throughout the research process, to the capacity of human beings to make their own decisions (and empowering and protecting those with impaired capacity to make decisions).
• All **new** Graduate Research Students and **new** Research Active Staff must complete Research Integrity Online Training (RIOT) prior to commencement of research.

• RIOT is the University's Research Integrity Online Training course, available to all University staff and students.

• RIOT covers the principles of research integrity and their application to the planning, conducting and reporting of research. RIOT also presents other aspects of the responsible conduct of research, including human research ethics, and the broad societal responsibilities of research.

• RIOT is made up of five discipline-based courses, a number of mini-quizzes that test your knowledge, a list of research integrity resources, and one final RIOT Quiz.

• RIOT can be found at: https://app.lms.unimelb.edu.au/webapps/blackboard/execute/content/blankPage?cmd=view&content_id=_5757273_1&course_id=_332791_1.
• Accounts Registration System (ARS) to access Themis: 

• Themis Login: http://www.themis.unimelb.edu.au/.

• Melbourne Graduate School of Education Human Ethics Advisory Group [MGSE HEAG]: 

• MGSE Letterhead for Consent Forms and Plain Language Statements: 
  http://education.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/word_doc/0018/621351/Letterhead_for_Ethics_PLS_and_Consent_Forms.doc.

• Themis Support: https://unimelb.service-now.com/it?id=sc_cat_item&sys_id=a167a4d04fdf5a00aa75c61f0310c7cc&origin=fix&question=0063e1944f139a00aa75c61f0310c7ff.

• RIOT: 

• The National Statement can be downloaded from: 
All MGSE Ethics Studios are in Room 514/515, Level 5, 100 Leicester Street at 11:00am and please BYO Laptop for:

– Tuesday 12 June
– Monday 16 July (Note start time is 12:00pm)
– Thursday 16 August
– Wednesday 12 September
– Tuesday 16 October
– Wednesday 21 November
– Monday 10 December