



## ORI Mission:

- Identifying compliance risks in our research practices and communicating those risks to the research community;
- Partnering with the research community in innovative and effective ways to minimize and manage research risks;
- Educating the research community with respect to appropriate business practices related to the conduct of research at Northwestern University; and
- Monitoring and correcting non-compliance in accordance with University and federal guidelines.

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## ORI Staff

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Lauran Qualkenbush  
Director  
Research Integrity Officer

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Beth Irwin  
Research Training Manager

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## NSF Proactively Reviews its Grant Proposals for Plagiarism

According to a recent *Report on Research Compliance*, the National Science Foundation Office of Inspector General (NSF OIG) acknowledged that it proactively reviews its grant proposals for potential plagiarism. NSF said it does not delay the proposal review process to investigate potential plagiarism since the research misconduct investigation process is more extensive. Therefore, it is possible to initially obtain NSF funding with a plagiarized proposal; however, NSF enables this type of process because it is confident it can and will collect any funding wrongfully obtained in a plagiarized proposal from the PI and the institution. Although findings of plagiarism are made against researchers at every career stage, NSF OIG reported that there was a higher rate of plagiarized proposals by inexperienced PIs, i.e., those who were within the first five years of their career.

While NSF OIG's research misconduct findings can be found in its semi-annual reports, it does not disclose the identities of those found to have committed the research misconduct. This practice differs from that of the federal Office for Research Integrity (federal ORI), the federal agency overseeing research misconduct cases in PHS-funded research. Federal ORI publicizes on its website the names and institutions of those who committed research misconduct. As more federal grant-making agencies share how they execute their policies and procedures, it is clear that they differ in their investigation of research misconduct, publication of findings, and administration of sanctions. To learn more about NSF OIG and federal ORI's policies and procedures, visit <http://www.nsf.gov/oig/officeofinvestigations.jsp> and <http://ori.hhs.gov/>.

## Did You Know?

A new website has been created in the Office for Research!! **Discover** is not only an excellent source for publicizing NU's research news but it also facilitates on-line donations to research and other University schools/units by connecting with the Office of Alumni Relations and Development.

<http://discover.northwestern.edu/>

Do you know any post docs? Make sure they are on the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs' listserv to learn about news, events and research opportunities specific to post docs! Contact [jennifer-hobbs@northwestern.edu](mailto:jennifer-hobbs@northwestern.edu) to join.

Did you know that the Office of Research Safety recently developed and released a reference guide on laboratory safety at Northwestern? You can find a copy of the guide at <http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ors/info/EssentialInformationGuide.pdf>.



## Introducing

**Beth Irwin....**

### 1) What is your title at Northwestern?

I am the Research Training Manager in the Office for Research Integrity.

### 2) What does that mean?

I am responsible for current ORI trainings as well as moving forward with the coordination of more comprehensive training for our research community.

### 3) What is one thing you want people to know about what you do here?

I am here to help make training more meaningful and engaging, to find ways to support the overall growth of our community.

### 4) How long have you been at Northwestern?

I have been at Northwestern for 5 years, originally starting as a Graduate Student in Counseling Psychology.

### 5) What did you do before you came to NU?

I was a high school teacher in Washington, DC and also worked in outpatient behavioral health at St. Mary's Hospital in Chicago.

### 6) Where is your home town?

Mason City, IA

### 7) What is your favorite flavor of ice cream?

Mint Chocolate Chip!

### 8) What is your favorite thing to do outside of work?

I love experimenting in the kitchen and spending time with my family.

### 9) What is your favorite yearly Chicago event?

I LOVE taking picnics to Music Mondays at Millennium Park.



EthicsPoint is a third party vendor that allows you to confidentially raise ethical concerns, ask questions, and/or report activities that may involve misconduct or violations of Northwestern University policy. For more information visit the website at:

[www.northwestern.edu/ethics](http://www.northwestern.edu/ethics)



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## Cost Sharing: Updates from OSR

Motivated by the desire to support the management of cost sharing and reinforce the system for tracking commitments, as of September 1, 2013, Northwestern University's philosophy behind funds 191 and 192 has changed to include the creation of an additional 193 cost share fund.

Cost sharing represents the sponsored project or program costs (direct and indirect) that would normally be borne by the sponsor but instead are covered by the institution or a third party, such as a subcontractor or an unfunded collaborator.

In the previous dual fund system there were multiple management issues, notably: distinctions between mandatory and voluntary committed cost sharing, as well as over-the-cap commitments, were unclear; 192's did not have expense budgets established and home units had to separately track cost share commitments, both overall and from contributing units. Now, with the creation of fund 193, such issues will be simplified as cost sharing can be better tracked by the intent of the commitment.

	<b>Previous Model</b>	<b>New Model as of 9/1/2013</b>
191	Mandatory (Salary & Non-Salary) Voluntary Committed (Non-Salary)	Mandatory (Salary & Non-Salary)
192	Voluntary Committed (Salary) Over-the-Cap	Over-the-Cap
193	N/A	Voluntary Committed (Salary & Non-Salary)

For more detailed information regarding Cost Sharing (also including Pre-Award Process of Obtaining Institutional Support, Post-Award Project Establishment and the Process for Obtaining a Letter of Support) please visit the link below:

<http://www.research.northwestern.edu/osr/costshare.html>

## Research Administration Upcoming Training

This four-session seminar is geared toward research administrators, staff involved in research administration and anyone who wants to learn about NU's research administration process, policies, and procedures. The seminar serves as an introduction to NU's research community and the extensive systems involved. It is a great networking and educational opportunity for staff new to research or experienced staff who would like a refresher in certain areas. Representatives from departments throughout NU will be on hand to present and answer questions.

The next seminar will next take place December 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the Chicago campus (FSM McGaw Pavilion, 1-401). To register, email [nu-ori@northwestern.edu](mailto:nu-ori@northwestern.edu).