

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE  
Research Policy and Advisory Committee

**Minutes**

April 23, 2025, meeting  
**Via Microsoft Teams**

**1. Call to order**

Tori McCoy called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm

Members Present:

Anna Benko, Rina Ghose, Jennifer Herriges, Tori McCoy, Joshua Mersky, Joseph Mougel, Kris O'Connor (ex Officio), Nigel Rothfels (ex Officio), Murad Taani, Melissa Tesch, and Sam Westcott (ex Officio)

Members Absent:

Madhusudan Dey, and Jenny Hutton

Guests:

Reed Heintzkill, Anne Kissack, Kathleen Koch, Cindy Marifke, Jeremy Miner, Jeff Nytes, and Michelle Schoenecker

**2. Automatic Consent**

- A. Agenda
- B. February 26, 2025, meeting minutes

**3. Chair Announcements**

Chair elections will be held at the next meeting. Tori McCoy is happy to continue as Chair, but anyone interested can contact Tori or Cindy Marifke to be added to the ballot.

**4. Update on Authorship Policy**

Nigel Rothfels stated this policy will be presented at the next meeting for full review. It would then go to the Faculty Senate in the fall.

The second paragraph of the introduction has been expanded to acknowledge that there are different disciplinary approaches to authorship.

Representing someone else's intellectual effort and property as your own has been added in the Violations section.

**5. Overview of the Current Misconduct Policy (SAAP 14-5)**

Kris O'Connor reviewed the current policy.

Jeff Nytes stated the Office of Research Integrity within the federal government released an update of their Misconduct Policy in September of 2024. These new requirements go into effect January 2026. As a result, UWM needs to update its policy to be compliant with the new requirements.

The update will include clarifying what plagiarism is. The assessment timelines have been removed or increased.

It will clarify the role of the RIO (Research Integrity Officer) and create a new role, which is known as the Institutional Deciding Official. It has to be a separate person from the RIO. Another role, the Institutional Certifying Official, has been added.

The update will specify that the inquiry process can be carried out by the RIO, or designated person, instead of an inquiry panel or committee.

It will specify the documentation that is required at each stage of the assessment, inquiry, and investigation processes.

This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

**6. Updates from the Office of Research**

Kris O'Connor, Jeremy Miner, Michelle Schoenecker, and Sam Westcott updated the committee about what's happening at the federal level.

**7. General Good and Welfare**

None

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 3:55 pm.