

# Research Ethics at BI Norwegian School of Management

**BI**

The Act on Ethics and Integrity in Research entered into force on 1 July 2007. In this connection the BI Norwegian School of Management has appointed an internal advisory committee on research ethics.

Scientific misconduct is defined as falsification, fabrication, plagiarism and other serious breaches of good scientific practice that have been committed wilfully or through gross negligence when planning, carrying out or reporting on research.





## BI's ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH ETHICS

BI's Advisory Committee on Research Ethics has the following three members:

- Professor Tore Bråthen, BI (chair)
- Professor Ragnvald Kalleberg, UiO
- Associate professor Ragnhild Silkoset, BI

Research coordinator Tore Abrahamsen acts as secretary to the committee.

The committee shall work to ensure that the research activities at BI conform to existing legislation and guidelines concerning research ethics and are in accordance with BI's fundamental values.

The committee has chosen three areas of priority:

### (1) Awareness-raising

The committee will inform the governing

bodies, departments and employees at BI on issues related to research ethics. Working together with relevant programme committees and other bodies, the committee will help ensure that research ethics becomes an integral part of the tuition at BI.

### (2) Preventative measures

The committee will propose measures to promote heightened awareness about research integrity issues among our research staff, students and candidates.

### (3) Advisory function

The committee will review and arbitrate on specific research-ethical cases that are raised as a result of conflicts or complaints related to breaches of scientific integrity and sound scientific practice at BI. The committee's statements on a case will be given in

writing, containing a substantiated assessment and a conclusion.

Should you ever find yourself in such a situation, and you feel the committee may be of assistance, you are encouraged to contact one of the committee members or the secretary.

BI has developed rules for handling suspected breaches of the research ethical guidelines. Individual cases will be handled in accordance with the rules stipulated by the Senate.

The BI committee on research ethics is based on the guidelines on research ethics developed by the National Committee for Research Ethics in the Social Sciences and the Humanities (NESH).

## RELEVANT TOPICS IN THE FIELD OF RESEARCH ETHICS:

(from the NESH guidelines)

### A. Research ethics, freedom of research and society

The value of research and research ethics, the social, cultural and linguistic roles of research. The importance of independent research. The communication and enforcement of research ethics standards.

### B. Respect for individuals

The obligation to respect human dignity, the obligation to respect integrity, freedom and right to participate. The obligation to prevent harm and suffering. The obligation to inform research subjects, regard for third parties, children's right to protection, respect for the individuals' privacy and close relationships.

The obligation to respect confidentiality, the obligation to restrict re-use of personal information, and requirement regarding the storage of information that can identify individuals. Respect for

posthumous reputations, for the values and motives of others, and the researchers' responsibility for clear role definition.

### C. Regard for groups and institutions

Regard for private interests, the public administration and vulnerable groups. The requirement for independence, research on other cultures and times, and limits on cultural recognition.

### D. The research community

The obligation to promote scientific integrity, good reference practice, verification and subsequent use of research material.

Requirement for professional opinions, requirement not to plagiarise. Obligations in respect of colleagues, the student-supervisor relations, as well as the responsibility of supervisors and project managers.

### E. Contract research

Clarification of the balance between contract research and researcher-driven research; management of contract research, the division of roles between research institutions and the individual researcher.

The independence of researchers and research institutions, information about the funding of research. The use of research results and the right to publish.

### F. Research communication

Science communication as a specialised task and the requirements incumbent upon individuals and institutions. The value of interdisciplinary discussions and a democratic public; participation in the social debate and responsibility for how research is interpreted.

Responsibility for verifiability in communication, and the obligation to convey research results.

The logo consists of the letters 'BI' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered within a dark blue square. This square is set against a horizontal band of medium blue color that spans the width of the page.

**BI**

### DID YOU KNOW:

..... that you as a researcher or student have a duty to report to the Privacy Ombudsman for Research, if you in your research project will be handling digitalised personal information or establish a manual personal registry containing sensitive information?

For further information, please visit:  
[www.nsd.uib.no/nsd/english/pvo.html](http://www.nsd.uib.no/nsd/english/pvo.html)

For further information:

Tore Bråthen

phone (+47) 46 41 04 15, [tore.brathen@bi.no](mailto:tore.brathen@bi.no)

Tore Abrahamsen

phone (+47) 46 41 03 85, [tore.abrahamsen@bi.no](mailto:tore.abrahamsen@bi.no)

<http://bikuben.bi.no/>

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