



Annual research integrity statement 2021-22

Name of institution: Arts University Bournemouth	
Period under review: Academic year 2021 – 2022	
Date approved by governing body: 24.11.22	Date made publicly available: 22.12.22
Web address of statement: https://aub.ac.uk/our-research/research-integrity	
Web address of institutional research integrity page: https://aub.ac.uk/our-research/research-integrity	
Named contact points for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Questions/ information on research integrity: Valerie Lodge, Research Manager, vlodge@aub.ac.uk• Concerns about research integrity/ research misconduct: Dr Christian Mclening, Director of Research and Development cmclening@aub.ac.uk	
Date statement sent to Concordat Signatories via Rlsecretariat@universitiesuk.ac.uk : 22.12.22	



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ANNUAL RESEARCH INTEGRITY STATEMENT

1. Summary of actions and activities that have been undertaken to support research integrity: ...

During the period under review, did you have a named contact point for queries about research integrity? Yes, Valerie Lodge, Research Manager, vlodge@aub.ac.uk

Arts University Bournemouth remains strongly committed to ensuring the highest standards in the conduct of all research undertaken in our name including research undertaken by staff and students.

In this, the University recognises its obligations to the wider research community, to the funders of research and to society as a whole to uphold the integrity of academic research, and to comply with the revised Concordat to Support Research Integrity, published by Universities UK in 2019.

Research Ethics Committee (REC) is responsible for monitoring research ethics, reporting to Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee which in turn reports to Academic Board. REC met on three occasions during the year chaired by the University Secretary, with members available to meet outside of the regular meetings as required.

The Research Office was also able to give guidance on research ethics to staff, students and researchers.

During the year, AUB reviewed the membership of Research Ethics Committee to include the addition of the newly created post of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Academic Advisor. Each academic department at the University has a School Ethics Advisor who is in post for a fixed term. This is to allow others to undertake the role and gain expertise in research ethics.

Research Ethics Advisors play a pivotal role in raising awareness of ethics across the organisation including advising staff working in Professional Services.

Research Ethics Advisors are invited to report back to Research Degrees Committee annually, normally in the final meeting of the academic year.

During 2021-22 the Committee reviewed the process for research ethics approval recommending some changes in respect of staff applying for external research funding and those seeking AUB support to undertake research qualifications.

The Committee also recommended expanding the case studies exemplars in AUB's Research Ethics Policy and Procedure, which form part of the guidance for ethical consideration of projects.



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2. Statement on processes that the institution has in place for dealing with allegations of misconduct:

AUB has a Misconduct in Research Procedure which deals with allegations of misconduct. The Misconduct in Research Procedure will also be used to investigate any allegation of research misconduct which is initially raised through the University's Whistleblowing Policy (Public Interest Disclosure Policy).

Allegations relating to academic misconduct by students is dealt with through the Academic Dishonesty Policy. Allegations of misconduct would also be considered alongside other relevant University policies including the University statement, Academic Freedom: Principles and Guidance; Dignity at Work Policy; Code of Conduct; Safeguarding Policy.

In line with other HR procedures, AUB adopted a two-staged process for the investigation of complaints comprising an initial consideration and then a formal panel. An independent member, with appropriate experience in this type of investigation and specifically within the arts and humanities, would always be included on the formal panel.

The AUB website has institutional contact details for general enquiries and provides the name of a key contact for the conduct of research.

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3. High-level statement on any formal investigations of research misconduct that have been undertaken. Please note:

- a 'formal investigation' refers to any use of an institution's formal process for the investigation of allegations of research misconduct or equivalent (such as processes for allegations involving postgraduate research students)
- it does **not** refer solely to the 'full investigation/ formal investigation/ formal hearing' stage of such a process; instead it covers any use of any stag(es) of the institution's formal process for the investigation of allegations of research misconduct.

Allegations during the period under review	Number
Allegations received during the period under review	0
Allegations received during previous year/s that are concluded during the period under review	0
Allegations undergoing initial investigation/screening	0
Allegations undergoing full investigation	0
Allegations upheld in full after full investigation	0
Allegations upheld in part after full investigation	0
Allegations dismissed after full investigation	0
Allegations still under investigation at time of writing (whether received during the period under review or during previous years)	0

Breakdown of allegations received by subject/ discipline	Number
Health and biomedicine	0
Physical sciences and engineering	0
Social sciences	0
Mathematics	0
Computer sciences	0
Law	0
Arts and humanities	0



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Multiple disciplines (when involved in a single allegation)	0
Unknown at time of writing	0
Breakdown of allegations by type	
<i>(see Commitment 4, Concordat to Support Research Integrity)</i>	
Fabrication	0
Falsification	0
Plagiarism	0
Failure to meet legal, ethical and professional obligations	0
Misrepresentation (e.g. of data; involvement; interests; qualification; and/or publication history)	0
Improper dealing with allegations of misconduct	0
Multiple areas of concern (when received in a single allegation)	0
Unknown at time of writing	0
Other	0
[If you listed any allegations under the 'Other' category, please give a brief, high-level summary of their type here. Do not give any identifying or confidential information when responding.]	



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4. Lessons learned from any formal investigations of research misconduct that have been undertaken: N/A

5. Statement on how the institution creates and embeds a research environment in which all staff, researchers and students feel comfortable to report instances of misconduct: ...

During the period under review, did you have a named contact point for raising concerns about research integrity? Yes:

Dr Christian McInenig, Director of Research and Development cmclening@aub.ac.uk

The AUB website clearly signposts anyone seeking to report or find out about research misconduct to named contacts with AUB's Research Ethics Policy available as a download.

All AUB Policy documents are listed together in one place on the AUB Intranet including the Misconduct in Research. Additional guidance on research ethics can be found on the AUB Intranet under research. This includes the Code of practice for research which sets out the process for approval and includes case studies as exemplars for scenarios that researchers in the creative arts and design may encounter. All new starters are required to read the Code of practice as part of their induction process.

The Intranet also houses a suite of forms that staff can use to seek ethical approval including templates for participation information sheets, consent forms and guidance on images. Students can access forms via Student Viewpoint.

Research Ethics Committee will consider the reporting of research misconduct as part of its ongoing reflection and evaluation of research ethics policies, practices and procedures.



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6. Information on periodic review of research misconduct processes: ... Date when processes last reviewed; any major changes during the period under review; date when processes will next be reviewed.		
Contact details for queries:	Valerie Lodge	Vlodge@aub.ac.uk
Version control: [insert: dates of any amendments post-publication; a <u>brief</u> description; date when revised version sent to Concordat Signatories via Rlsecretariat@universitiesuk.ac.uk]		