# Ethics Education Inventory

# Survey Results University of Cincinnati

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# **University of Cincinnati**

### **Graduate School Profile:**

#### 10 Graduate Colleges

- 67 Doctoral Programs
- 85 Master's and Professional Programs

#### 9,200 Graduate Students

- 17% International
- 2,300 Doctoral Students
- 2,200 Distance Learning

\$443 Million in Research Funding for FY 2010



### **Professional Ethics Education**

What is the "appropriate level" of training and oversight at UC?

- √ Compliance minimums defined and implemented
- ✓ Established Office of Research Compliance Training
- **➢Opportunity to Elevate Quality of Scholarship & Graduates?**

### **Beyond Compliance**

- Columbia: University climate assessment (12,500)
- MIT: "Context Program" integrated with design capstone
- U of Miami, FL: 8 contact hour course with case studies
- Emory: Awards for development of curriculum or events



# National Conversation – NSF Perspective

#### Why are we Concerned?

- 75% of high school students admitted to cheating
- 61% of undergraduates admitted to cheating
- 30% or more of researchers admitted to "questionable practices"

### Misconduct increasing since 1988

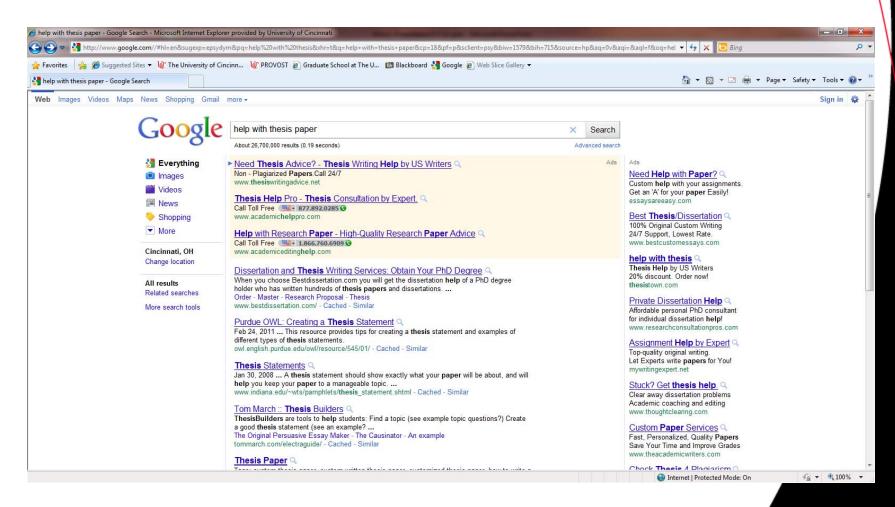
- Allegations increased 3 fold
- Actions increased 16 fold

### Institutional Responsibility (as of January 4, 2010)

 "...must have a plan in place to provide appropriate training and oversight..."

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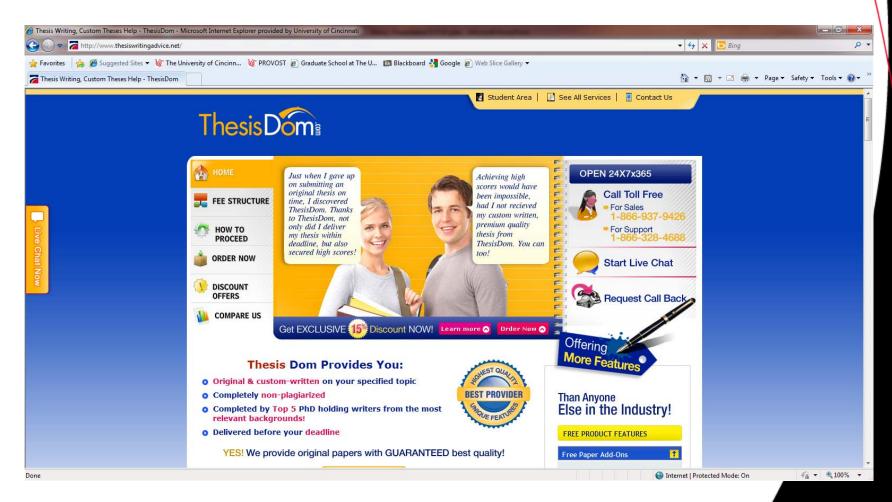
## **Shadow Scholar**



Google: "help with thesis paper"



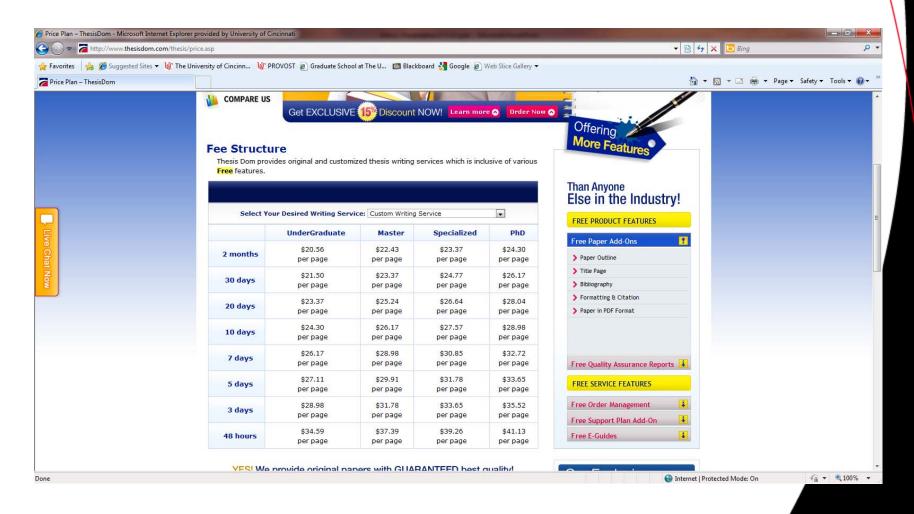
### **Shadow Scholar**



"Achieving high scores would have been impossible, had I not received my custom written, premium quality thesis..."



## **Shadow Scholar**





# **Inventory Survey**

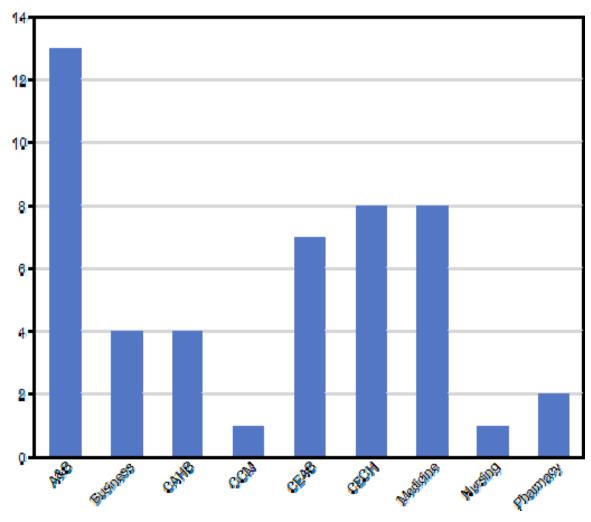
- CGS Inventory Survey
- GPDs & Associate Deans in Nov 2010
- Focus on collecting department-level information





# Number of Responses by College

All Graduate Program Directors and Associate Deans were asked to complete this survey.



56% Response Rate

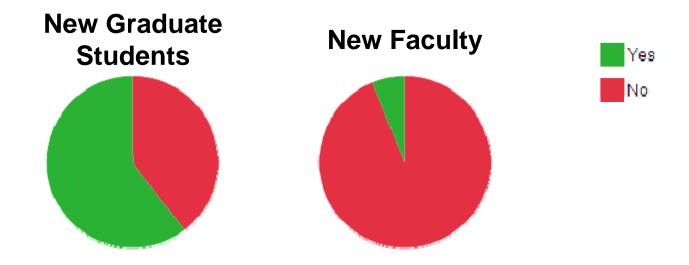


<sup>48</sup> Responses

<sup>\*</sup> It was noted that this survey was not deemed appropriate for CCM and DAAP based on a lack of inclusiveness in the wording of each question.

# Orientation

Question: Does your college/department/program discuss research and scholarly integrity in orientation for:

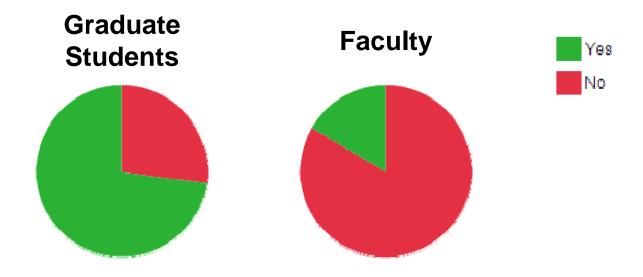


"I think this is appropriate for us to add to our already extant orientation activities in the fall."



# **Training**

<u>Question</u>: Does your department/program require some component(s) of training in research and scholarly integrity for:



"For economy of scale and uniformity in message, this should be a college responsibility, not a department obligation."



# Resources - Graduate Students

Question: How do your Graduate Students learn about the following research and scholarly integrity topics?

	Advisor or Mentor	Courses	Workshops	Printed materials	Web-based materials	No Resource	N/A
Data acquisition, management, sharing and ownership	78%	65%	15%	22%	35%	7%	7%
Conflicts of interest and commitment	78%	63%	15%	22%	37%	9%	4%
Use of human participants in research	69%	64%	13%	20%	47%	2%	18%
Use of animals in research	29%	24%	7%	7%	22%	0%	60%
Use of hazardous substances	36%	29%	9%	13%	24%	4%	53%
Research misconduct	76%	74%	15%	17%	37%	7%	4%
Publication practices and responsible authorship	78%	74%	20%	17%	20%	7%	4%
Mentor and trainee responsibilities	76%	46%	15%	17%	17%	11%	7%
Peer review	76%	58%	18%	11%	16%	9%	7%
Collaborative research	76%	48%	17%	11%	15%	9%	7%
Personnel Management	62%	20%	7%	4%	9%	11%	27%
Financial Stewardship	69%	27%	13%	4%	9%	13%	16%
Average	67%	49%	14%	14%	24%	7%	18%

"Orientation for new graduate students covers these topics, albeit briefly."



# Resources - Faculty

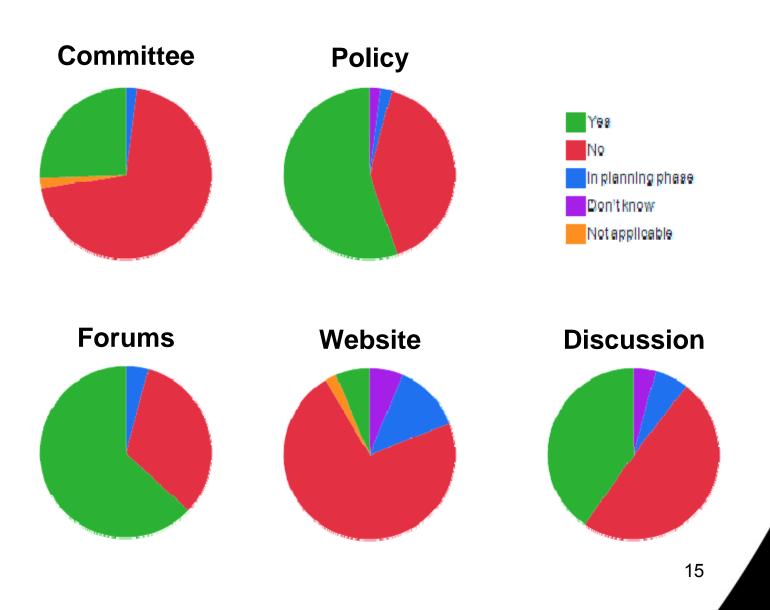
Question: How do your Faculty learn about the following research and scholarly integrity topics?

	Independent Research	Workshops	Printed materials	Web-based materials	No Resource	N/A
Data acquisition, management, sharing and ownership	65%	20%	22%	30%	17%	4%
Conflicts of interest and commitment	54%	24%	26%	37%	13%	7%
Use of human participants in research	46%	33%	28%	52%	4%	17%
Use of animals in research	24%	20%	11%	20%	2%	62%
Use of hazardous substances	32%	23%	14%	27%	2%	50%
Research misconduct	56%	20%	31%	40%	16%	2%
Publication practices and responsible authorship	65%	17%	24%	26%	15%	2%
Mentor and trainee responsibilities	63%	17%	20%	15%	17%	9%
Peer review	78%	15%	24%	20%	11%	0%
Collaborative research	76%	17%	20%	15%	15%	0%
Personnel Management	59%	14%	14%	14%	23%	14%
Financial Stewardship	57%	24%	11%	15%	26%	4%
Average	56%	20%	20%	26%	14%	14%

"Our faculty seem to "learn as they go" through our interactions with our professional colleagues."



# Department Involvement





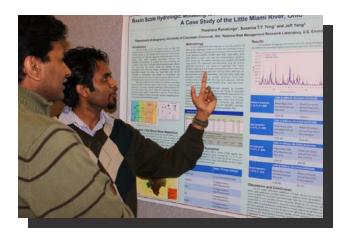
### Conclusions

#### Training and Orientation

- Graduate student training reported in most departments
- Training focused on meeting compliance requirements
- For faculty, virtually no training or orientation outside compliance

#### Resources

- For graduate students, most prevalent is the student's advisor/mentor
- For faculty, most prevalent is independent research





# Conclusions, cont.

### Department Involvement

- Committee level involvement in professional ethics education is important
- Explanation of ethical conduct / policies is reactionary
- Workshops, difficult discussions, etc. good way to deliver ethical education
- Information on websites lacking





### **Lessons Learned**

### **Survey Application**

- Keep question wording consistent for comparability
- Create "identifier questions" to enable data stratification
- Encourage participation
- Solicit future involvement in process

### **Analysis of Survey Results**

- Comments very insightful to explain trends and outliers
- Leverage external data for greater extrapolation of survey results
- Utilize detailed results as discussion tool to solicit input
- Use conclusions to drive change

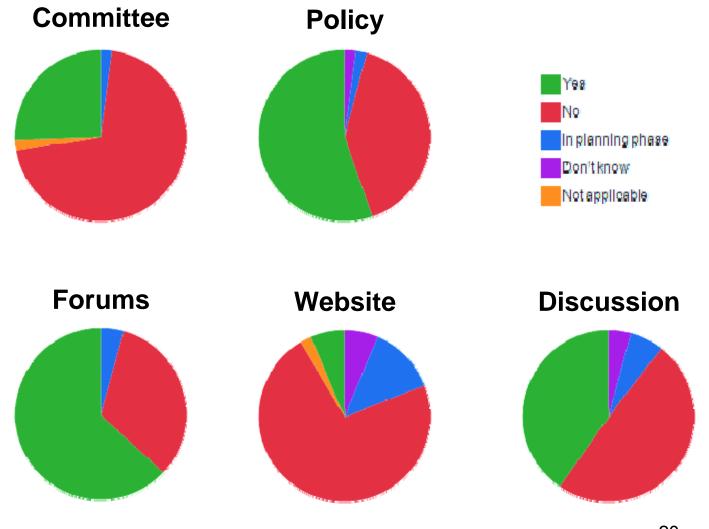


# **Next Steps**

- ✓ Faculty Engagement a Priority
  - Emphasize not compliance driven
  - Emphasize impact on quality of research
  - Emphasize impact on quality of graduates
- ✓ Inventory Survey Priorities
- ✓ Administer Climate Survey
- ✓ Graduate School Committee on Ethics Education
  - Faculty leadership
  - Staff support from Graduate School
  - Analyze resources and climate data
  - Review literature on ethics education
  - Benchmark current best practices
  - Recommendations to Graduate Council
  - Assess Progress



# **Priorities**





# Next Steps

- ✓ Faculty Engagement a Priority
  - Emphasize not compliance driven
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### For Committee Consideration

#### Communication and Awareness

- Online Resources
- Social Media
- Student Handbook
- Departmental Committee Responsibility

#### Curriculum

- Define Key Principles for Ethics Education
- Integration in Existing Courses
- Discipline-Specific Case Studies and Seminars
- Required Thesis/Dissertation Discussion
- Advisory Panel



### For Committee Consideration

#### Assessment

- Graduate Program Director Annual Review
- Graduate Program Review
- New Program Development
- Reappointment Promotion & Tenure Criteria

#### Graduate School /Research Office Support

- Central Resource to Teach Key Principles
- Compliance Training
- Grants for Research on Ethics Education
- Grants for Innovative Programs
- Recognition and Awards



### Web Resources

- CGS <a href="http://www.scholarlyintegrity.org/">http://www.scholarlyintegrity.org/</a>
- Association for Practical & Professional Ethics <u>www.indiana.edu/~appe</u>
- Resources for Research Ethics Education <a href="http://research-ethics.net/">http://research-ethics.net/</a>

