POLICY NO. 311
Area: General Administration

Adopted: April 2009
Certified by____________________________
Colette Pierce Burnette
Vice-President for Administration and CFO

Revisions Approved:

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY FOR RESPONDING TO ALLEGATIONS OF RESEARCH MISCONDUCT

Purpose

The policy of Central State University is that the highest ethical standards in the conduct of research be maintained. Misconduct in research as defined in this policy shall be considered a major breach of the contract between the faculty, staff member, or student and the university. The purpose of this policy relating to ethics in the conduct of research is to maintain the highest standards and to establish institutional policies that provide a conspicuous and understandable mechanism for dealing with instances of alleged misconduct.

Responsibilities

a. Each investigator is responsible for the highest standards of ethical conduct in the pursuit of all research and other scholarly activities.

b. Each principal investigator is responsible for the overall conduct of research projects under his/her supervision. Supervision includes assuring the highest ethical standards in the conduct of the research and dissemination of research results, as well as detecting irregular practices in research procedures, introducing remedial measures in the case of innocent mistakes, and investigating and eliminating willful misconduct.

c. Research investigators are responsible to a principal investigator if involved in a multi-investigator project. Principal investigators are responsible to department chairs and/or program directors who in turn are responsible to the appropriate
dean(s). The chain of responsibility continues through the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the President of the university.

d. Each principal investigator is responsible for the procedures used to gather, record, and retain research data and similar products of other scholarly activities according to scientific and/or professional standards of discipline.

e. Each principal investigator is responsible for the dissemination and reporting of research results including ethical attribution of authorship. Thus, the contributions of all investigators should be appropriately recognized, and all co-authors must accept responsibility for their personal contributions to the work being reported.

Scope

This policy is intended to carry out this institution’s responsibilities under the Public Health Service (PHS) Policies on Research Misconduct, 42 CFR Part 93; the National Science Foundation (NSF) regulations at 45 CFR Part 689; and any other sponsor requirements.

- This policy applies to allegations of research misconduct (fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results) involving:
  - A person who, at the time of the alleged research misconduct, was employed by, was an agent of, or was affiliated by contract or agreement with this institution; ¹ and

(1) PHS, NSF, or other university supported biomedical or behavioral research, research training or activities related to that research or research training, such as the operation of tissue and data banks and the dissemination of research information,

(2) Applications or proposals for PHS, NSF or other university support for biomedical or behavioral research, research training or activities related to that research or research training, or

(3) Plagiarism of research records produced in the course of PHS, NSF or other university supported research, research training or activities related to that research or research training. This
includes any research proposed, performed, reviewed, or reported, or any research record generated from that research, regardless of whether an application or proposal for PHS, NSF or other external funds resulted in a grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or other form of PHS, NSF or other external support.  

Sections based on 42 CFR Part 93 have endnotes indicating the applicable section.

This policy and the associated procedures do not apply to authorship or collaboration disputes and apply only to allegations of research misconduct that occurred within six years of the date the institution or HHS received the allegation, subject to the subsequent use, health or safety of the public, and grandfather exceptions in 42 CFR § 93.105(b).

PROCEDURES:

Administrative Procedures for Responding to Allegations of Research Misconduct

No. 311.1

Endnotes

1 42 CFR § 93.214
2 42 CFR § 93.102