

BOOK REVIEWS

Macrina, F. L.

Scientific Integrity: Text and Cases in Responsible Conduct of Research

Third Edition. AMS Press, American Society for Microbiology: Washington, DC, 2005. XXV + 402 pages.
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Principal author Francis L. Macrina, Ph.D., is the Edward Myers Professor and Director of the John F. Philips Institute of Oral and Craniofacial Molecular Biology at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond. He directs a research program in bacterial pathogenesis. The list of contributors comprises six experts from US Universities and Research Institutes. As stated in the foreword by G. Koski, this book provides tools, approaches, and insights that all scientists can use to recognize and fulfill their responsibilities and protect truth. As declared in the preface, the third edition of this text draws its life from continued teaching and scholarly activity in the field of responsible conduct of research. This edition aims to provide a core of topic areas that can be used to teach trainees about the principles of scientific integrity.

The volume is composed of 11 chapters entitled: methods, manners and responsible conduct of research, ethics and the scientist, mentoring, authorship and peer review, use of humans in biomedical experimentation, use of animals in biomedical experimentation, managing competing interest, collaborative research, *ownership of data and intellectual property*, genetic technology and scientific integrity, scientific record keeping. Each chapter contains four discussion questions at the end of the textual material. These are designed for in-class discussion, or may be used for writing assignments. At the end of each chapter 10 short cases designed for classroom discussion may be found. These cases are designed to allow students to solve realistic problems encountered in scientific research. In conclusion, there are six appendices entitled: surveys as a tool for training in scientific

integrity, students exercises, standards of conduct, sample protocols for human and animal experimentation, example for a U.S. patent specification, and laboratory notebook instructions.

This volume presents important revision of a best-selling text in the expanding field of responsible conduct of research. The book delivers updates of all existing chapters and most appendix material and provides vital information on new topics. New to the third edition is a companion Web site that will serve as a critical reference source for students and instructors alike. Expanding upon the useful resources integrated into the text, the Web site provides a collection of online resources that will be verified and updated regularly.

Reviews of previous editions approve that this publication contains an excellent, current compilation of material on variety of topics that scientists and engineers can or will encounter on a regular basis. Students in the science quickly realize the need to learn new techniques, understanding the ethical underpinnings of their activities is less clear. Macrina's book provides a valuable and accessible foray into the world of research ethics that both students and instructors appreciate. *Scientific Integrity* belongs on the bookshelf of anyone involved in the research enterprise. This textbook is designed primarily for graduate and postgraduate courses in the biomedical, natural and behavioural sciences, it may also be employed in upper-level undergraduate courses.

Jindřich Jira

MEETING OF UN FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY STANDARDS COMMISSION

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Hartwig de Haen, FAO Assistant Director-General, said the two Organizations would continue to try to improve developing country participation in the Codex decision-making process by strengthening their capacities at the national level to set up and administer food control systems.

"Technical assistance programmes by FAO and WHO support the efforts of developing countries to strengthen their national food safety systems to protect local consumers and to take advantage of international food trade opportunities," de Haen said.

The 28th session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission runs from 4–9 July at FAO Headquarters in Rome.

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