

Materials Science and Engineering (MSE)

Plan to address the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies, Resolution 2012-13B:

Resolution to Include a Scholarly Ethics and Integrity Component in Graduate Education

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MSE will insure that graduate students in our department are informed and educated on the following required topics per the CGSP Resolution 2012-3B:

1. Plagiarism and other violations of the Graduate Honor Code
2. Proper use of professional conventions in citation of existing research and scholarship, accurate reporting and ownership of findings, and acknowledgement of contributions to the work
3. Ethical standards in teaching, mentoring, and professional activities
4. Available avenues for reporting alleged misconduct

The MSE plan to address resolution 2012-13B involves requiring all incoming graduate students to complete within their first two months in residence the “NSF Responsible Conduct of Research for Engineers” (RCR) requirement as implemented at Virginia Tech. Completing the online course created and maintained by the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) at the University of Miami will satisfy this requirement. The course is available to registered graduate students through <https://www.citiprogram.org/> (instructions are located at ([Instructions for Accessing Research COI Training \(vt.edu\)](#))). The students will be asked to complete the following RCR modules: Authorship, Collaborative Research, Conflicts of Interest, Data Management, Mentoring, Peer Review and Publication, Research Involving Human Subjects, Research Misconduct, and Whistleblowing and the Obligation to Protect the Public. Once the online modules have been completed, students will be able to print out a certificate of completion from CITI to demonstrate compliance with the Scholarly Ethics and Integrity Component in Graduate Education Policy. This certificate must be submitted to the MSE Graduate Coordinator, who will put it in the student’s file. When a student subsequently submits a Plan of Study, the Graduate Coordinator will note the completion of the Ethics and Integrity Component Requirement.

Additionally, during the required incoming student orientation, the students will be given University resources and contacts for any questions they may have concerning the four topics listed above.