

PHI 816, Intro to Research Ethics, Fa 2006, **Pre-test**

1. The federal government's official definition of research misconduct only includes falsification of data, fabrication of data, and plagiarism; the definition does not include conflicts of interest.

- a. True
- b. False, because fabrication of data is not necessarily misconduct.
- c. False, because conflict of interest is defined as misconduct.
- d. False, because the federal government does not have an official definition of research misconduct.

2. The moral theory that counts all like interests equally and aims at maximizing happiness is called:

1. Moral rights theory
2. Egoism
3. Virtue theory
4. Utilitarianism
5. Deontology

3. A survey of college students' routine behaviors, such as a questionnaire that asks them to describe the amount of time they spend studying and their use of alcoholic beverages, is exempted from review by our Institutional Review Board (IRB).

1. True, because surveys that ask routine questions need not be reviewed.
2. False, because no surveys or questionnaires are subject to IRB review.
3. False, because the use of alcohol by students not yet 18 is illegal, and any questionnaire that asks about illegal behavior must be reviewed by the IRB.
4. False, because although such surveys are exempt at other institutions, NC State's specific institutional guidelines explicitly require IRB review for surveys that ask about illegal behavior.

4. As of 1985, evidence showed that institution review boards were biased against studies of unusual or politically sensitive subjects.

1. True, because Ceci, Peters, and Plotkin (1985, American Psychologist) found that IRBs were inconsistent in their judgments of many types of studies, and were biased against studies of unusual and politically sensitive subjects.

2. False, because Ceci, Peters, and Plotkin (1985, American Psychologist) found that

IRBs were unbiased against studies of unusual or politically sensitive subjects.

3. False, because no reliable studies of IRBs had been completed in 1985, so there was no evidence for the assertion.

5. One of the major weaknesses of utilitarianism is that it:

1. Seems to be arbitrarily prejudiced toward one person's interests (mine).

2. Seems to make it impossible to criticize the group's rules.

3. . Seems to undervalue the weight of our attachment to those nearest and dearest to us.

4. Seems to have a difficult time justifying the existence of rights claims.

6. According to NC State University's "Policies, Regulations and Rules" (PRR) document, any NC State graduate student observing or suspecting research misconduct must report it to the university's Research Integrity Officer.

1. True

2. False, because the PRR document explicitly allows that graduate students suspecting misconduct have it within their discretion—before approaching the Research Integrity Officer—first to confront the wrongdoer themselves.

3. False, because the PRR document states that graduate students must always report misconduct to the head of their lab or research project before approaching the Research Integrity Officer.

4. False, because the PRR document states that graduate students must always report misconduct to the Chancellor of the university.

In order for a graduate student to be found guilty of research misconduct, each of these criteria must be satisfied except:

1. The allegation must be proven by a preponderance of evidence;

7. 2. The student must have engaged in an action that is a significant departure from accepted practices of the relevant research community.

3. The misconduct must have been committed intentionally, or knowingly, or recklessly.

4. The allegation must be proven not merely by a preponderance of evidence but,

furthermore, by physical evidence proving misconduct beyond the shadow of a doubt.

8. Which document was developed in the United States as a response to the US Public Health Service syphilis trials?

- 1. Nuremberg Code
- 2. Hippocratic Oath
- 3. Professional Code of Engineers
- 4. Belmont Report
- 5. The Tuskegee Convention

9. According to the NC State University Grievance Procedure for Students, students who believe they have been discriminated or retaliated against based upon race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or disability, may notify the NC State Office for Equal Opportunity.

- 1. True.
- 2. False, because the NC State University Grievance Procedure does not provide any advice for such students.
- 3. False, because the NC State University Grievance Procedure requires such students first to notify the local police.
- 4. False, because the NC State University Grievance Procedure stipulates that such students may notify the Office for Equal Opportunity only if their immediate supervisor has first consented to allow them to do so.

10. According to the NC State Code of Student Conduct, students found to have committed academic misconduct will be placed on academic integrity probation for the remainder of the student's academic career.

- 1. True
- 2. False, because the NC State Code of Student Conduct does not specify a sanction for academic misconduct.
- 3. False, because such students are placed on probation for the remainder of the semester in which they committed the offense.
- 4. False, because such students are only placed on probation for the remainder of the year in which they committed the offense.

11. Two characteristics of a profession are: self-regulating and _____.

- 1. Expose whistleblowers.
- 2. Funded by state taxpayers.
- 3. Use one's privileged position to feather one's nest.
- 4. Pursue social goods.
- 5. False, because Mendel was a physicist, not a biologist.

12. Each of the following characterizes the Land Grant University ideal except:

- 1. Pursuit of knowledge for the sake of passing on familiarity with classical languages and texts.
- 2. Research to serve society's common but real needs.
- 3. Equality of opportunity.
- 4. Widespread access to higher education.
- 5. Improve welfare of agricultural and industrial workers.

13. The Bayh-Dole Patent Act:

- 1. Prohibited private companies from commercializing research developed with government funds at public universities unless they obtained a waiver from the funding agency.
- 2. Allowed private companies to commercialize research developed with government funds at public universities.
- 3. Set aside federal funds to create a research campus at North Carolina State University.
- 4. Is a special "earmark" inserted by Sen. Elizabeth Dole (R-NC) to support commercializing research in the Research Triangle Park of North Carolina.

14. Each of the following characteristics ideally defines a profession except:

- 1. Individuals organized in groups.
- 2. Pursues social goods.
- 3. Regulated by government.

- 4. Advanced knowledge;
- 5. Holds society's trust.

15. Ethics is defined in each of these ways except:

- 1. Philosophical inquiry.
- 2. The study of arguments about good and bad.
- 3. A search for guidance in our actions based on good reasons.
- 4. Focused almost exclusively on empirical research.
- 5. The study of arguments about right and wrong.

16. Justifications of ethical principles that appeal only to self-interest:

- 1. Seem to be prejudiced in favor of one party
- 2. Are called utilitarian
- 3. Cannot take into account differences between cultures
- 4. Seem to undervalue the importance of each individual's projects and goals
- 5. Are called "moral rights" theories.

17. Justifications of ethical principles that involve appeals to moral rights focus primarily on:

- 1. The consequences of one's actions.
- 2. The production of happiness and the reduction of unhappiness.
- 3. The autonomy of persons.
- 4. Evolutionary advantages and fitness resulting from random genetic variation.
- 5. One's own long-term interests and preferences.

18. According to the Nuremberg Code, each of the following criteria must be satisfied when performing research on human subjects, except:

- 1. The person should have legal capacity to give consent.
- 2. The person should be so situated as to be able to exercise free power of choice, without the intervention of any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress, over-reaching, or

other ulterior form of constraint or coercion.

- 3. The person should have sufficient comprehension of the elements of the subject matter involved as to enable him to make an understanding decision.
- 4. The duty and responsibility for ascertaining the quality of the consent rests solely upon the individual who initiates and funds the experiment.
- 5. The person should have sufficient knowledge of the elements of the subject matter involved as to enable him to make an enlightened decision.

19. Moral rights theorists believe:

- 1. Moral rights are grounded in the autonomy of individuals.
- 2. Moral rights appeared spontaneously as a result of variation, adaptation, and selection in nature.
- 3. Moral rights are ultimately justified by the evolutionary process of self-interested individuals outcompeting altruistically minded individuals.
- 4. Moral rights are ultimately justified by the evolutionary process of altruistically-minded individuals tending to outcompete self-interested individuals.
- 5. Moral rights are grounded in social conventions and laws that vary from culture to culture.

20. When analyzing data, it is unethical to use a new, as yet unaccepted method of analysis.

- 1. True
- 2. False, because it is only unethical to use new unaccepted methods if one fails to disclose that one is doing so.
- 3. False, because one should only use methods of analysis that are conventional and widely accepted in one's field.

21. You are a graduate student supported by a research grant to Professor T with whom you have published two preliminary papers. You take a new job as an assistant professor at another university. Consequently, using some of the data you collected under Professor T, you publish a third paper listing yourself as sole author. He writes you a detailed letter saying that it was wrong to exclude him as an author. How should you respond?

- 1. Ignore him.
- 2. Write him and say you're sorry he feels offended, but explain that you felt you exercised judgment properly in deciding whom to list as an author on the third publication.
- 3. Write him and say you're sorry, and ask him to call you so that you can discuss how to proceed.
- 4. Write him and tell him he is harassing you and, if he does not stop, you will contact

his Dean and the journal editor to ask them to censure him.

5. Do not make contact with Professor T; post a message on your website declaring that he is harassing and intimidating you.

22. You are Professor T. You have supported a graduate student on a research grant and published two preliminary papers with him as a coauthor. He has since begun work as an assistant professor at another university. You discover that he has published a third paper listing himself as sole author using some of the data he collected under your guidance. How should you respond?

1. Write to congratulate him on his new publication and do not mention your concern.

2. Write him and say that you believe he was wrong to exclude you as an author.

3. Write him, say he was wrong to exclude you, and provide him with a detailed account of the history of your publications together that explains why you believe you should be an author on the third publication.

4. Write him and tell him he has harmed you and, if he does not immediately write to the journal editor to request a correction in a future volume adding you as an author to his paper, that you will contact his Dean and ask that he be fired.

5. Do not make contact with him; instead, post a message on your website declaring that he is dishonest and manipulative.

23. Federal regulations protect whistleblowers by insisting that institutions provide appropriate safeguards to those reporting misconduct. The reason is that

1. People who report allegations of misconduct in good faith must feel that they can report allegations confidentially.

2. People who report allegations of misconduct in good faith must feel that they can report allegations confidentially and without fear of retribution.

3. If whistleblowers are not protected, there will be so many false allegations of misconduct that institutions will not be able to protect whistleblowers.

24. Close working relationships are encouraged among NC State faculty, staff and students and, assuming that appropriate safeguards are in place, it is proper for an individual to exercise direct supervisory, instructional, and/or advising responsibilities for someone with whom there is a familial or amorous relationship.

True False

25. Sensitivity to the challenges facing under-represented minorities and women in graduate

education continues to be important for graduate students and graduate faculty members.

1. True, because of continuing higher--or lower--expectations of individuals in these groups.

2. True, because of hostile climates in some labs for individuals in these groups.

3. True, because of continuing higher--or lower--expectations of individuals in these groups and hostile climates in some labs for individuals in these groups.

4. False, because the Civil Rights Movement eradicated all challenges for minorities in graduate education.

5. False, because the Women's Movement eradicated all challenges for women in graduate education.