January 8, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

Oregon State University supports a culture of ethical behavior, adherence to university policies, and compliance with federal and state laws and regulations. In alignment with these supported goals, I am pleased to share with you that the Office of Research Integrity will add a new component to its suite of ethics and compliance units: the Program for Responsible Research Practices.

This program will facilitate compliance with federal requirements and alignment with professional standards in two primary areas:

1. Responsible conduct of research, and
2. Research misconduct

Effective February 1, 2020, the program will be launched and led by Lisa Leventhal, who will serve as the Director for Responsible Research Practices and the University’s Research Integrity Officer. In this new role, Lisa will be directly responsible for the development, administration, and oversight of a broad range of research integrity, compliance, and reporting functions. She will participate in OSU’s strategic planning efforts by ensuring that responsible research practices are integrated with the institution’s overall compliance structure. Lisa will also serve as the OSU point of contact for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services with respect to research misconduct investigations, and as the Designated Official responsible for managing the reporting procedures related to sexual harassment, other forms of harassment, and sexual assault in federally funded science and education.

Lisa previously served in the role of administrator for the Human Research Protection Program and Institutional Review Board for the past 10 years; a search for a new administrator is underway. Lisa will continue to provide support to researchers and the IRB during the transition and lend her expertise as needed.

We look forward to working with you as we develop this new program.

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