

**The original Japanese text is the official verified document, and this translation is to be used solely for reference.**

- Guidelines for the Disclosure of the Results of Investigations Concerning Misconduct in Research Activities at Hiroshima University

(Approved by the University President on April 28, 2015)

**Amendments** April 1, 2016—Partial Amendment; March 4, 2019—Partial Amendment

Guidelines for the Disclosure of the Results of Investigations Concerning Misconduct in Research Activities at Hiroshima University

(Objectives)

Article 1 These guidelines are pursuant to the provisions of Article 43 Paragraph 3 of the Regulations for Preventing and Responding to Misconduct Related to Research Activities at Hiroshima University (Regulation No. 98 from April 28, 2015, hereafter referred to as “the Regulations”) and establish the details for the disclosure of the results of investigations related to misconduct in research.

(Definitions)

Article 2 The terms used in these guidelines are as per the usage of the terms in the Regulations.

(Contents of Disclosure in Cases Where Misconduct Is Found to Have Been Committed in Relation to Research Activities)

Article 3 As a rule, when it is found that misconduct was committed in relation to research activities, the following details shall be made public.

- (1) Name and assignment or affiliation of the individual involved in the research-related misconduct
- (2) Details of the misconduct
- (3) Measures taken by Hiroshima University up to the time of disclosure
- (4) Name and assignment or affiliation of the Investigative Committee members
- (5) Method and procedure of investigation
- (6) Any other matters deemed necessary by the President

(Contents of Disclosure in Cases Where No Misconduct is Found in Relation to Research Activities)

Article 4 In cases where it is determined that no misconduct was committed in relation to research activities or the error can be attributed to negligence or something similar, and the case has already been made public, as a general rule, the following details shall be made public.

- (1) A statement that no misconduct was found in relation to the research activities
- (2) A statement acknowledging that there was an error in the paper due to negligence (only in cases where errors were found to be due to negligence)
- (3) Name and assignment or affiliation of the accused
- (4) Name and assignment or affiliation of the Investigative Committee members
- (5) Method and procedure of investigation
- (6) Any other matters deemed necessary by the President

(Contents for Disclosure When It Is Determined That the Accusation Was Mala Fide)

Article 5 As a rule, when it is determined that the accusation was based on malicious intent, the following content is disclosed.

- (1) Name and assignment or affiliation of the complainant
- (2) Reasons for finding the accusation to be mala fide
- (3) Name and assignment or affiliation of the Investigative Committee members
- (4) Method and procedure of investigation
- (5) Any other matters deemed necessary by the President

(Exceptions to Disclosure)

Article 6 Notwithstanding Article 3, if the paper or other work identified as having research-related misconduct is withdrawn before the accusation is filed, the names and affiliations of the individuals involved in the misconduct shall not be made public.

- 2 Notwithstanding the provisions in Articles 3–5, if the individuals involved in the misconduct, the accused, or the accuser includes a student, and if it is deemed necessary under educational considerations, the student’s information that would risk identification may not be disclosed.
- 3 In addition to the provisions in the two preceding paragraphs, the President may refrain from disclosing whole or parts of the contents of disclosure if the President finds reasonable grounds for refraining from doing so, notwithstanding Articles 3–5.

Article 7 Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 3–5, in cases where the relevant investigation is conducted jointly with other organizations, the content for disclosure shall be decided after consultation with the organizations concerned.

Supplementary Provisions

- 1 These guidelines will come into effect on April 28, 2015.
- 2 For the disclosure of investigation results and related items pertaining to accusations against research activities conducted with research funds allocated before Fiscal Year 2014, the preceding regulations shall remain applicable.

Supplementary provisions (partially revised on April 1, 2016)

These guidelines will come into effect on April 1, 2016.

Supplementary provisions (partially revised on March 4, 2019)

These guidelines will come into effect on March 4, 2019.