

Seminar Series for Research Capability Enhancement for the Self-financing Degree Sector of Hong Kong

Research Ethics

Date: 4 May 2015, Monday
Time: 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Venue: KK202, K.K. Leung Building
The University of Hong Kong
Language: English
Registration: [online registration form](#)
(Free of charge)
(First come, first served)

Prof. John Bacon-Shone
The University of Hong Kong



Abstract:

The key ethical principles of research integrity are: (1) honesty in the conduct and communication of research; (2) objectivity and openness; (3) duty of care; (4) fairness in giving credit and appropriate acknowledgement; and (5) responsibility for nurturing new researchers.

(1) Honesty is required in presenting research goals and intentions, and in reporting procedures and findings. Such presentation and reporting must be full and fair. (2) Objectivity of research requires accuracy in the collection and reporting of data. Conclusions must be based on facts capable of verification, and researchers should be impartial and transparent in the handling of data, which must be suitably archived. Research findings and the underpinning data must be made accessible to the research community for verification. (3) We have a duty to care for the human participants, the animals, and the environment under study and for ensuring that research is done safely. (4) We must be fair in giving credit for the work of other researchers who participate in the research. (5) We have a responsibility in supervising and nurturing research students and young researchers. We must be aware of, disclose and address any potential conflict of interest and in particular, positions of seniority or responsibility should never be abused so as to put pressure on colleagues or research students, for example, to forego their right to proper acknowledgement of their contribution to the research or publication in question.

We should adhere to good research practices; and should not engage in research misconduct such as plagiarism, fabrication, falsification or unauthorised use of data, improper ascription of authorship, and non-disclosure of potential conflict of interest. All relevant ethical approval must be obtained before the commencement of data collection.^[1] This presentation will discuss responsible research practices from an ethical perspective, with a specific focus on human subjects research.

^[1] edited and abridged from the HKU Principles

About the speaker:

Professor John Bacon-Shone has taught at The University of Hong Kong for 35 years and has been Director of the Social Sciences Research Centre since 1990. He is an applied statistician and was the Dean of Social Sciences from 1990-1996 and is currently Associate Dean (Knowledge Exchange). From 1998-2001 he was seconded to the Central Policy Unit, the HKSARG internal think tank, where he worked on a range of policy issues including population, gambling, environment, public opinion and technology. Since 2007, he has chaired the Human Research Ethics Committee for Non-Clinical Faculties and since 2009, he has been Associate Director of the Knowledge Exchange Office at the University of Hong Kong, where he has been responsible for developing and implementing the university strategy for knowledge exchange in non-tech disciplines. His research interests including statistical computing, survey methodology, compositional data, biostatistics, gambling, data archiving and policy research and he was responsible for introducing Computer-Aided Telephone Interviewing to Hong Kong.

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Co-organized by:

