Make RESEARCH great again!
research³
QUESTION

How is research on research integrity performed and published in the scientific literature?

What you study

How you study it

How you disseminate it

How well you do it
METHODS

- SCOPUS search
- Included results published between 2005–2015 in English
- Only included results classified as ‘Articles’ by SCOPUS

(TITLE-ABS-KEY (‘academic’ OR ‘research’) W/4
(misconduct OR integrity)) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ((‘responsible’
W/2 ‘research’)) OR KEY (‘Scientific misconduct’) OR KEY
CLASSIFICATION PROCESS

relevance

reason for exclusion

N=1730 NO

2477
N=1730

YES
N=747

NO

N=2477

Systematic reviews
N=3

Empirical
N=287

Narrative reviews, theoretical approach, Guidelines, or other non-empirical papers
N=446
THEMES COVERED

- Safeguards

Number of papers (out of 747)
CLASSIFICATION PROCESS

relevance

reason for exclusion

empirical

theme

N=1730
NO

YES
N=747

NO

YES

target population
TARGET POPULATION (empirical papers)

Number of papers (out of 286 empirical papers)

- Researchers: >90%
- Students: >80%
- Direct approaches:
  - Editors: >60%
  - Institution: >50%
  - Industry: >40%
  - Mentor/RCR Instructor: >30%
  - Research integrity officer: >20%
  - Participants/Public: >10%
  - Policy makers:
  - REC:
  - Peer-reviewers:
  - Other research actors:
  - General:

Direct approaches
CLASSIFICATION PROCESS

2477

relevance

NO

YES

empirical

reason for exclusion

NO

theme

NO

YES

YES

target population

focus
FOCUS (empirical)
DETERMINANTS for MISCONDUCT and QRP (empirical papers)

- **Structural**
  - System pressures
  - Perceptions of climate
  - Financial incentives
  - Inadequate oversight/policy
  - Discipline
  - Lack resources

- **Personal**
  - Personality
  - Career stage
  - Gender
  - Country of affiliation
  - Rationalisation

- **Training**
  - Need for training
  - Modeling
  - Mentoring
  - Expertise

Other:
- Work relationships, Fear of retaliation, Culture of compliance, Hampered criticism, Institution type, Job insecurity
- Need for recognition, Opportunistic (Internet), Prior misconduct, Single authorship
**APPROPRIATIONS to MISCONDUCT and QRP (empirical papers)**

**Disconnect between evidence from ‘determinants’ and targeted ‘approaches’**

Due to the very low quality of evidence, the effects of training in responsible conduct of research on reducing research misconduct are uncertain.

Marušić et al., 2016

General; COI management; allegations; corrections and review system; evaluation index

Targeting the system

- System pressures
- Perceptions of climate
- Financial incentives
- Inadequate oversight/policy
- Discipline
- Lack resources

Targeting researcher's behaviour

- Gender
- Country of affiliation
- Rationalisation
- Guidelines

- Detection
- Need for training
- Modeling
- Mentoring
- Expertise
CLASSIFICATION PROCESS

relevance

empirical

2477

reason for exclusion

theme

YES

NO

YES

theme

YES

target population

focus

citation patterns
• **Average of 10** citations per paper

• **…but median of 4** citations

• **112 articles never cited** *(15%)*
Make RESEARCH great again!

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

• Do we neglect relevant voices?
• Do we fully use available evidence?
• Are we careful in designing the research agenda?
• Are there more efficient uptake mechanisms?
QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, THOUGHTS…

SPECIAL THANKS TO WIM PINXTEN!

noemie.aubertbonn@uhasselt.be
orcid.org/0000-0003-0252-2331
Affiliation distribution of articles with ≥30 citations
PRELIMINARY RESULTS:

Affiliation of articles with ≥40 citations
INCLUSIONS and EXCLUSIONS

SEARCH RESULTS

N= 5453

• 44% ‘Articles’

• N=2477

• 14% Editorials
• 12% Reviews
• 8% Conference paper
• 8% Notes
• 7% Letters
• 3% Book Chapters
• 3% Short surveys
• >1% Other, books,

Exclusions

N=1730

Inclusions

N=747
Research on research integrity over time

- All articles yielded by search (general research trend)
- Included papers
- Included empirical papers
Research on research integrity over time
(more details)
SOURCE FOR OBTAINING DATA (empirical)

- Direct approach
- Published material
- Retraction notices
- Guidelines
- Case reports
- CV and applications
- Trial registries
- Teaching material
- Manuscripts, theses or assignments
- Industry documents
- Other
OLD MATERIAL FROM PRELIMINARY RESULTS
focus empirical/non-empirical (2010-2015)