

**Office of the Research Integrity Officer**  
Tel: 514-934-1934 ext 44739  
rio.vprir@mcgill.ca

**TO:** Senate  
**FROM:** Dr. Christina Wolfson, Research Integrity Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Annual Report Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct (2020-21)  
**DATE:** September 22, 2021  
**DOCUMENT #:** D21-03  
**ACTION REQUIRED:**  INFORMATION  APPROVAL/DECISION

**ISSUE** An annual report submitted to the Senate and Board of Governors for information in accordance with the provisions of the *Regulations Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct*.

**BACKGROUND & RATIONALE** According to article 11.6 of the *Regulations Concerning the Investigation of*

- (ii) *the number of Research Misconduct allegations investigated;*
- (iii) *a summary of the findings of the investigations conducted;*
- (iv) *a summary of any actions taken pursuant to the investigations.*



2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT  
Report of the Research Integrity Officer  
Dr. Christina Wolfson  
Prepared September 2021

Introduction:

The Regulations Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct (the Regulations) call for the Research In

	Table 1: Nature of the Allegations						
	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	Total
Plagiarism & Authorship	3	1	2	0	4	3	13
Fabrication/ Falsification	1	1	0	1	1	2	6
Ethical Misconduct	2	1	2	1	2	3	11
Misrepresentation of Credentials			1	0	0	0	1
Mismanagement of Research Funds			1	0	0	0	1
Misappropriation of Intellectual Property				2	3	1	6
Mismanagement of Conflict of Interest				1	0	0	1

False Accusation of Research Misconduct				1	0	0	1
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## Actions in Response to Allegations

Table 3: Actions in Response to Allegations

Nature of the Allegation

Nature of the Allegation	Year**	Total Cases	No Prima Facie Case	Transferred*	Inquiry only OR Investigation	Finding of Research Misconduct***
False Accusation of Research Misconduct	2018-19	1			1	
	2019-20	0			0	
	2020-21	0			0	
Destruction of Research Records	2020-21	1			1	
Libel	2021-21	1	1		0	
Totals		42	3	2	37	11

\*All allegations that upon review were transferred to other jurisdictions and not managed through McGill University RIO.

\*\* Additional categories for the nature of allegations have been added over the years. So for some categories there is no history.

\*\*\* There is one dossier ongoing.

The first step following the receipt of an allegation is an inquiry conducted by the RIO by a Deputy RIO. The possible outcomes of the RIO inquiry are: (i) insufficient evidence to proceed to an investigation; (ii) admission of research misconduct; or (iii)

