Annotated Bibliography of Ethical Issues in Physics: Research Misconduct

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Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 17, Number 3 / September 2011, pp. 469-483
Textual Appropriation in Engineering Master’s Theses: A Preliminary Study
Edward J. Ecke
The author reports that a preliminary study indicates that textual appropriation is common in the literature review portion of masters theses in engineering.

CLI/MIS
Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists
66.6 (November 2010) pp 1-7
Michael E. Mann: A scientist in the crosshairs of climate-change denial
Interview
This interview with a prominent climate scientist covers issues such as the peer review process, public perception, and how the scientific debate is played out in the media.

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MIS, PUB, ENE
Physics Today—July 2010
Volume 63, Issue 7, p. 50
On Fact and Fraud: Cautionary Tales from the Front Lines of Science
David Goodstein; Bernard J. Feldman, Reviewer
Book review

Physics Today—November 2010
Volume 63, Issue 11, pp. 11-12
Cold fusion and reproducibility
Fred McGalliard, Scott R. Chubb, and Bernard J. Feldman
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Volume 63, Issue 1, pp. 40-45
Lives in Science: How Institutions Affect Academic Careers
Joseph C. Hermanowicz and Robert C. Hilborn, Reviewer
Book Review

Physics Today—July 2010
Volume 63, Issue 7, p. 10
Teaching amid the research obsession
Roger S. Jones

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Physics Today -- October 2009
Volume 62, Issue 10, p. 57
Plastic Fantastic: How the Biggest Fraud in Physics Shook the Scientific World
Eugenie Samuel Reich and Myriam P. Sarachik, Reviewer
Book Review
Scientists protest professor's dismissal
Colleagues rise to the defense of a physicist accused of wrongdoing.

University of Tsukuba defends professor's dismissal
Hiroshi Mizubayashi

Fired Tsukuba professor's defense
Teruji Cho, Herbert L. Berk, Nathaniel J. Fisch, Masafumi Akahira, and Hiroshi Mizubayashi

The authors studies 45 cases of misconduct by examining records at the Office of Research Integrity. They focused on misconduct by students or post-docs and concluded that the mentors often had not set explicit standards for the students to follow.
Purdue Reopens Fusion Fraud Probe
Jim Dawson
The investigation of the sonofusion experiment was reopened following criticism by a U. S. House staffer of an earlier investigation.

Bubble fusion scientist disciplined
Barbara Goss Levi

The author examines the Schon case, paying particular attention to the report issued by the Bell Labs investigative committee. Questions are raised about how much the report actually resolves on crucial issues such as what it means to be a co-author.
Does National Security Require or Contradict Scientific Integrity?

News article on the issue of whether fraud was involved in lab tests related to missile defense systems. An investigation was halted when key information was classified.

On identifying research misconduct respondents

An interesting short piece on the difference between policies at ORI and NSF regarding the disclosure of the names of those who have committed scientific misconduct.

Yucca Mountain E-mails Indicate Data Were Falsified

The emails include a reference by one scientist to keeping two sets of data files, one for his use and one to show Quality Assurance.

Data selection and responsible conduct: Was Millikan a fraud?

The author examines the question of whether or not Millikan committed fraud in his oil drop paper. Included is a review of historical standards as well as of current standards for data analysis and presentation.
Integrity in Industrial Research
William F. Brinkman
The author, a former vice president at Lucent Technologies, argues that there are misconceptions about how and why scientific fraud develops in an industrial setting.

Strict Internal Review May Curb Research Fraud
Giorgio Margaritondo

New APS Ethics Guidelines Address Research Misconduct and Professional Responsibilities
Jim Dawson
The APS Guidelines on Professional Responsibility were modified in light of the Schön and Ninov incidents.
MIS
Physics Today -- December 2002
Volume 55, Issue 12, pp. 10-11
Truth, Ownership, and Scientific Tradition
Robert B. Laughlin
Discusses aspects academia and industry that provide both motivation and opportunity for deception in physics.

Physics Today -- April 2003
Volume 56, Issue 4, pp. 13-18
Research, Ownership, Misconduct—Readers Respond
Seven ways to plagiarize: Handling real allegations of research misconduct
Michael C. Loui
The author looks at the definition of plagiarism, presents several case studies, and concludes with recommendations to authors and to those who investigate plagiarism allegations.

Exploring the role of the research integrity officer
Commentary on ‘seven ways to plagiarize: Handling real allegations of research misconduct’ (M. C. Loui)
Lisa N. Geller

Self-plagiarism and dual and redundant publications: What is the problem?
Commentary on ‘seven ways to plagiarize: Handling real allegations of research misconduct’ (M. C. Loui)
Stephanie J. Bird
Bell Labs Convenes Committee to Investigate Questions of Scientific Misconduct
Barbara Goss Levi
Early report on the investigation of the Schön affair at Bell Labs.

Investigation Finds that One Lucent Physicist Engaged in Scientific Misconduct
Barbara Goss Levi

Element 118 Bows Out
Barbara Goss Levi
Reports on the retraction by researchers at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory of their claim to have discovered element 118.

Lawrence Berkeley Lab Concludes that Evidence of Element 118 Was a Fabrication
Bertram Schwarzschild
This case study focuses on issues relating to data fabrication, publication, collaboration, and mentorship. While one hopes the situation is well outside what a typical graduate student will experience, the resulting conflicts the student in this case study experiences are still useful to explore.

Commentary on “Sherry's secret”
Deborah G. Johnson

Protecting research integrity
Mats G. Hansson
A general discussion of steps to maintaining research integrity and of the dividing line between dishonesty and carelessness. Argues for ethics-related education early in the training of students.