Background

• Increasingly complex regulatory environment for research at universities.
• Individual faculty members may have various compliance requirements on projects.
• Need to strengthen compliance program with an eye for areas where burden can be reduced and communication enhanced.
• Office of Research Integrity & Assurance (ORIA) formed in 2012.
Goals/Role of ORIA at Mason

ORIA promotes ethical and responsible conduct of research by serving as a resource for researchers through:

• Developing policies/procedures and providing support, training and advice to aid researchers with compliance related to federal, state, university, and local regulations with regard to research.

• Identifying compliance risks and communicating those risks to the research community.

• Monitoring and investigating instances of noncompliance to protect the university research reputation.
Program Areas

- Human subjects research: http://oria.gmu.edu/research-with-humans-or-animals/institutional-review-board/
- Animal Care and Use: http://oria.gmu.edu/research-with-humans-or-animals/animal-care-and-use/
- Export Compliance: http://oria.gmu.edu/export-control/
- Research Misconduct: http://oria.gmu.edu/ethical-conduct-of-research/research-misconduct/
- Conflicts of Interest: http://oria.gmu.edu/ethical-conduct-of-research/conflict-of-interest/
- Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR): http://oria.gmu.edu/ethical-conduct-of-research/responsible-conduct-of-research-education/
Human Subjects Research

• Selected and implemented online protocol management system (IRBNet)
• Developed and implemented user satisfaction survey
• Developed institutional policy and SOPs
• Developed “short forms” to reduce burden
Animal Care and Use

• Brought animal care services in house for higher level of service, reduced costs, and better oversight.
• Implemented online protocol management system (IRBNet).
• Updated protocol forms for ease of use.
Export Compliance

• Hired Director to evaluate current status of program.
• Institutional policy in development.
• Institutional controls.
• Training and outreach.
Research Misconduct

• Updated policy for clarity.
• Developed anonymous reporting mechanism.
• Purchased iThenticate for use by faculty.
Conflict of Interest

• Updated policy for consistency with NIH requirements.
• Developed online disclosure mechanism that allows copy-paste of previous disclosures.
RCR Education

• Faculty led seminar series launched this fall.
• Outreach to departments and classes to provide information and training.
Faculty Advisory Board

- Chartered in 2013.
- Serves as a vehicle for faculty to provide guidance and input into policies related to research compliance and integrity at George Mason University.
- Consists of faculty members nominated by the Faculty Senate as well as faculty serving as representatives for each college on campus and faculty serving as subject matter experts.