

Interpersonal Responsibility Assessment Results for Blair Gemmer

100% (100 points correct out of 100 possible)

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Questions you answered incorrectly are highlighted in **red**.

Question 1: Most entering graduate students know about the ethical expectations of research from learning right and wrong when they were growing up.

Correct Answer: False

Your Answer: You answered correctly.

Answer Explanation: Although it is true that many ethical behaviors can be learned from close family members, most new graduate students learn lab conventions and expectations from mentors, older students, post-docs, and through their own experience.

Question 2: Mentors are those who are intentionally or unintentionally involved with the professional development of a research trainee, including fellow students and staff personnel.

Correct Answer: False

Your Answer: You answered correctly.

Answer Explanation: Mentors are those who are directly involved with the professional development of a research trainee. Usually a mentor is the supervising faculty member.

Question 3: The primary role-related responsibility of researchers is to be competent in their work and motivated to produce the highest quality work possible.

Correct Answer: True

Your Answer: You answered correctly.

Answer Explanation: This is the primary role-related responsibility of a researcher. But the role of the researcher extends to include communication, data retention and reporting, relationships with colleagues and human participants as well as care of animal subjects.

Question 4: The mentor/trainee relationship creates the potential for abuse and exploitation by both parties because of the extraordinary level of mutual dependence coupled with fact that the mentor often has tremendous control over the education of a trainee and early career.

Correct Answer: True

Your Answer: You answered correctly.

Answer Explanation: The main causes for ethical problems between the mentor and trainee are the extraordinary level of mutual dependence coupled with the power disparity that exists in the relationship.

Question 5: If a mentor is focused on his/her own research agenda, without consideration of whether trainees are having appropriate educational experiences, ethical problems can surface.

Correct Answer: True

Your Answer: You answered correctly.

Answer Explanation: This ethical concern is an off-shoot of the power disparity between the mentor and the trainee. A mentor who cares only about his/her own research agenda is not in a position to help students develop their own research agendas.

Question 6: Lab directors have a responsibility to create an ethical environment by making sure that tasks and rewards are distributed fairly.

Correct Answer: True

Your Answer: You answered correctly.

Answer Explanation: The lab director sets the ethical standard for those who work there.

Question 7: The ethical researcher is one who does not make errors.

Correct Answer: False

Your Answer: You answered correctly.

Answer Explanation: An honest error is not equivalent to research misconduct. Science is called "self-correcting" because the repetition of experiments and the publication of reports allows for error and misinterpretations to be detected.

Question 8: An individual should be included in the list of authors if he or she can be appropriately praised or blamed for a significant segment of included material.

Correct Answer: True

Your Answer: You answered correctly.

Answer Explanation: If someone connected with the research study can be praised or blamed for the results, that person should be included as a author. In addition, depending on the complexity of the collaboration that produced the report, authorship may indicate responsibility for a disciplinary-specific aspect rather than for the whole piece. No one should be included in the list of authors unless he or she can take responsibility for at least some of the work described. And, in addition, each author must have agreed to the presentation of material for which he or she is responsible.

Question 9: If a journal article fails to include a step by step process for replication, that is an indication that the study does not need to be replicated.

Correct Answer: False

Your Answer: You answered correctly.

Answer Explanation: Every study, no matter how seemingly definitive, should be capable, at least in principle, of being replicated. That is how the results of a study gain credibility and acceptance. Replication is also an important way of discovering and documenting honest error. A researcher should therefore make it as clear as possible how such replication can take place.

Question 10: As illustrated in the case study for this section, it is ethically prohibited to offer "gift" authorship.

Correct Answer: True

Your Answer: You answered correctly.

Answer Explanation: Dr. Smith learned, from talking with her colleagues, that she should not offer authorship as a "gift." The primary tool in avoiding ethical problems among individual researchers is communication. Being transparent about the intent, motives, and reasons of a researcher for a chosen action provide good protection against unintentional unethical action.

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C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

Blair Gemmer

Has Successfully Completed

Section Two: Interpersonal Responsibility

of the

Online Research Ethics Course

On this Day

04/26/2012

Have an Ethical Day