Campus Memorandum

From: Gary Reynolds, Director

To: Recipient P.I. of National Science Foundation (NSF) Funding

Subject: Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)

Effective January 4, 2010 the NSF requires that institutions receiving NSF grant funding must develop a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight to ensure students and researchers follow a “responsible and ethical conduct of research.” This required training applies to all students, research associates, research staff and/or postdocs that work on any NSF funded grant project. BYU has acquired an NSF sanctioned online tutorial that fulfills this requirement.

Please be aware that the tutorial was not created by BYU nor is required by BYU. This is in fulfillment of a federal regulation affecting all NSF funding. The examples and responses by the tutorial’s fictitious institutions may not necessarily exactly reflect the attitudes or probable responses of our institution. However, in general, this tutorial does address the national discussion concerning ethics in research and has been chosen as the mechanism by which BYU will comply with the federal regulation.

As Principal Investigator of NSF funding, it is your responsibility to:

1. Provide every student, research associate, research staff, or postdoc employee with a copy of this memo.
2. Encourage each employee to log on to the website below and complete the RCR training provided.

To New Users of the Online Ethics Tutorials:

See the instructions and websites on the following page so each individual may:

1. Set up an individual Ethics Core account
2. Register with the National Ethics Center
3. Join/affiliate with the BYU Group