Research Integrity Policy and Procedures in the School of Arts and Creative Industries

Research integrity/ethics is overseen in SACI by a formal **research integrity (RI) committee** currently comprising Nicholas Ashton, Alistair Duff (chair), and Bashabi Fraser. This committee reports to the University Research Integrity Committee (URIC) and is represented on the SACI research and innovation committee.

The school also has two **ethics gatekeepers**, who may be approached for informal advice; these are Kirstie Jamieson and Scott Lyall.

The basic principle for research integrity at Edinburgh Napier University is **self-assessment** with signoff by research **gatekeepers** located close to the study, normally modular supervisors for student projects and dissertations, and principal investigators for staff research.

For **student research**, a variety of forms can be used, for example by different dissertation modules, reflecting diversity of fields and techniques; all forms must, however, reflect the University’s **code of practice on research integrity**. While referral is normally unnecessary, the school RI committee will consider any potentially ethically-controversial student research projects referred by module leaders. Such referrals need to use the **SACI Research Integrity Approval Form.**

**Staff research** and commercial applications are expected now to use the automated **RMS/Worktribe** system, available at https://napier-research.worktribe.com/login.jx

This requires principal investigators to answer ethics questions regarding their research project. If the PI answers Yes to any top level question (level is clear once you are in the system) then they will be required to give additional information and the project will be referred automatically to the RI Leader.

The RI Leader may then need to ask the PI to fill in the **SACI Research Integrity Approval Form**, for formal consideration by the school RI committee. Where additional ethical expertise seems necessary, the school committee may also have to refer a proposal ‘up’ to URIC. Please note that this whole process can take at least a month during term time and longer during holiday periods.

Thank you in advance for your patience with the system, which is designed to ensure that SACI’s research remains demonstrably ethical, thereby protecting researchers and their subjects. The school RI committee chair is happy to hear feedback on any of the above.

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