

GEO REU Workshop 2016

Working group: Talking to students about research ethics while supporting inclusiveness and cultural relevancy

9:30-10:30 am - Friday, Sept. 23, 2016

Leaders: Diana Dalbotten

This is from a small working group of workshop participants who discussed the topic and made notes on their discussion.

Challenges

- Common body of work specific to Geoscience. We often use NIH guidelines.
- Defining what standard ethical “rules” are should consider cultural perspectives
- Ethical norms are evolving and not static.

Solutions and strategies

- Allow students to start the conversation about scientific ethics based on their experience and compare that with current scientific/societal norms for ethics
- Recognize and emphasize to students that ethics have many gray areas with multiple perspectives that should be considered and validated (there’s not always one right answer).
- Could there be an ethics training or materials from NSF that we could use or point us to?

Resources

- Avoiding research misconduct: <http://ori.hhs.gov/thelab>
- Responsible conduct of research: <http://bioreu.org/node/28>

Additional thoughts/materials

- Important for students to understand that you validate their beliefs and that there can be multiple perspectives on an issue.
- Involve the larger international/national ethics bodies into the discussion of ethics at GEO REU