Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research Training for Graduate Students – Sample Plan

An important component of training in becoming a future independent investigator will involve formal, continued instruction in the responsible and ethical conduct of research. In accordance with the America COMPETES Act and NIH announcement number NOT-OD-10-019 and NOT-OD-22-055, Marquette University has developed a detailed plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research. Notably, this training plan is compliant with NIH requirements. Details of this plan are available upon request from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Student Development. Briefly, Marquette University has developed a course to comply with the NIH requirements that provides differentiated learning experiences for different levels of participants. The course is organized into three units, each containing selected CITI modules (the "RCR Basic" series) and discussion meetings. Students access instructional materials and information about the face-to-face discussions via an associated D2L- site (d2l.mu.edu).   Students are required to successfully pass the quizzes associated with each CITI module (at 80%) and attend all three face-to-face discussions. The course provides in-depth, interactive case-based instruction in the following areas of responsible and ethical conduct of research:

- Data Acquisition and Management
- Secure and Ethical Data Use
- Mentor-Trainee Relationships
- Publication Practices and Authorship
- Peer Review Practices
- Collaborative Research, including International Collaborations
- Protection of Human Subjects
- Research Involving Animals
- Conflict of Interest and Commitment
- Ethical Decision Making in Research
- Safe Research Environments
- Research Misconduct

Although these are the main subject matter for the modules, it is anticipated that the following topics be interwoven into the modules: Plagiarism; Intellectual Property; Lab Management; Financial and Personnel Management; Ethical Deliberation and Training; and Whistleblowing.