THE PROGRAM IN CONTEXT:

The Biomedical Research Integrity (BRI) program offers an opportunity to trainees and researchers consider explicitly the everyday judgments that occur during the course of a research career. Our program provides an opportunity to reflect on important questions of ethics and research integrity, to discuss issues with peers and faculty, and to identify skills and resources that will help researchers to address difficult questions related to research integrity. The program assumes that responsible conduct of research and research integrity require more than rules and regulations. Choices within research practice are often subtle and require interpretation and judgment. Developing these skills and sensibilities requires something of you – it asks you to test your instincts and to identify your personal strengths and potential vulnerabilities. As part of your larger professional development experience, the BRI program aims to work with you to develop integrity from the inside out, as the foundation for a lifetime endeavor.

PROGRAM GOALS:

BRI participants will be able to:

1. **Recognize ethical issues** and challenges to integrity that arise in routine research practices;
2. **Formulate a justified response** to ethical issues and challenges, using select ethical decision making tools;
3. Identify a sense of professional **responsibility to take action** and make good judgments that work to support good research practices;

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

1. Lectures: Each summer, we invite 3-4 senior scientists and national leaders in science, ethics, or policy to raise and address core issues related to research integrity. The program is repeated at UW and FHCRC.
2. Discussion Sections: Small group discussions centered around cases and challenges faced by trainees. Discussion groups are facilitated by UW and FHCRC science and ethics faculty and are held in the weeks following the lectures at each facility.
3. Reflective Questions: Participants are asked 2-3 questions prior to each lecture. These questions are intended to connect the participant's own experiences with the topic and can be discussed further in the discussion sections (new 2006).
4. Brief Readings: Short, timely papers are circulated prior to each lecture (and repeated for the discussion groups) to connect trainees with on-going discussions in the scientific literature on the research integrity topics at hand.
4. Website: The program website offers additional resources and readings on each topic (to be updated Summer 2006).

PHS REQUIREMENTS:

The BRI program meets the PHS requirement for all NIH-funded trainees in instruction in the Responsible Conduct of Research in National Research Service Award Institutional Training Grants (NIH Guide, 1994). The program covers the 6 core topics required by the NIH Guide on a rotating basis: *conflict of interest, responsible authorship, policies for handling misconduct, policies regarding the use of human and animal subjects, and data management.* These topics are often addressed through the themes of: *researcher/trainee responsibilities and collaborative science.*