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# Researching with Integrity: The Ethics of Academic Enquiry


*Bruce Macfarlane*

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the ethics of academic enquiry

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**Bruce Macfarlane : Researching with Integrity: The Ethics of Academic Enquiry** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Researching with Integrity: The Ethics of Academic Enquiry:

There is increased emphasis internationally on ethically sound research, and on good training for research supervisors. Researching with Integrity aims to identify what and how research can be undertaken ethically and with integrity; from initial conception of ideas through to dissemination. It outlines the context in which academics

engage in research, considering the impact of discipline and institutional culture, the influence of government audit of research 'quality', the role of government and quangos, professional organisations and business sponsors, and examines the effects of the increasing power and influence of funding bodies, university ethics committees and codes of practice. Based on the notion of 'virtue' ethics, this book proposes an alternative approach to research, which focuses not only on ethical rules and protocol to avoid unethical research, but encourages academic, professional and character development and allows for the exercise of personal judgement. Themes considered include: Increased competitiveness between academics and concentration of funding in fewer universities; Increasingly bureaucratic approval of processes focused on the treatment of human and animals in research; Meeting the expectations of research sponsors; 'Taboo' research topics and methods; Exposing findings to the scrutiny of peers, taking credit for the work of others and self-citation; Bullying of junior researchers and plagiarism; Power and influence of institutional, discipline-based and professional organisations; Illustrated throughout with short narratives detailing ethical issues and dilemmas from international academic researchers representing different disciplines, research cultures and national contexts, this book proposes an alternative approach to research which provides all research professionals with the intellectual tools they need to cope with complex research.

"A good question, posed every year across the country, is: 'Why do we have to complete these stupid IRB procedures?' . . . Bruce Macfarlane's most recent monograph on research ethics provides a very concrete, historically accurate answer, at least to the overt question of 'why.' . . . The text is clear, brief and well grounded in history, philosophy, and research methodologies." *Journal of Higher Education*

About the Author  
Bruce Macfarlane is Professor of Higher Education at the University of Portsmouth (UK) where he is also Head of Academic Development. His previous books include *Teaching with Integrity* and *The Academic Citizen*. He is a Vice Chair of the Society for Research into Higher Education.