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# DIALOGUES IN RESEARCH ETHICS

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## Dialogue 1: Scientific Fraud and Responsibility

Noon, September 18, 1992, RMSB 3109

Civilization expects a lot from scientists, perhaps especially from those in the biological sciences. Some expectations are straightforward: Citizens in the mature democracies spend large amounts of tax money to support research. They expect to sponsor work that is free of fraud, misrepresentation and other kinds of intellectual dishonesty. But the expectations are less clear when it is realized that fraud can come in many forms, not all of them as clear-cut as falsifying data, say. What constitutes scientific misconduct? What about unclear cases? Can and ought scientists police themselves? In a broader context, what are the legitimate rights and responsibilities of researchers in the natural sciences?

Co-chairs of the first dialogue are Lawrence Fishman, M.D., UM Professor of Medicine and Associate Chief of Staff for Research, VAMC; and Kenneth Goodman, Ph.D., Director of the UM Forum for Medical Ethics and Philosophy.

*Dialogues in Research Ethics is a series of monthly conferences sponsored by the Forum for Medical Ethics and Philosophy, the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, and the Office of the Deputy Dean for Research and Graduate Studies. For more information about the series, phone 547-5723 or send e-mail to [kgoodman@newssun.med.miami.edu](mailto:kgoodman@newssun.med.miami.edu).*

