



ÖSTERREICHISCHE
AGENTUR FÜR
WISSENSCHAFTLICHE
INTEGRITÄT



Activity Report 2018

1. Affairs of the Association

Meetings:

General Assembly (GA): November 29, 2018

Meetings of the Commission: May 2 and November 23, 2018

Meetings of the Working Group on Controlling and Preventing Plagiarism: June 18 and December 17, 2018

Board Meeting: November 8, 2018

Board:

Helmut Denk, representing the Austrian Academy of Sciences, was re-elected in his function for another two years.

Effective March 1, **Jean-Robert Tyran** (University of Vienna) took up the position from the Federal Minister Heinz Faßmann. **Eva Blimlinger** became Chair of Universities Austria (uniko) and succeeded Oliver Vitouch as Member of the Board of OeAWI in January 2018.

Member Organisations:

By January 1, the **Institute of Advanced Studies (IHS)** became full member of OeAWI. Thus, the number of member organisations comprises 38 institutions.

Statutes of the OeAWI and Rules of Procedure of the Commission:

The Statutes and the Rules of Procedure of the Commission were revised following a discussion at the 2017 General Assembly in a multi-stage process that began in January 2018. The reasons for the revision included removing "dead rights" and adapting the documents to actual practice in order to allocate responsibilities accordingly, as well as making the structure clearer.

Karl-Gerhard Straßl and **Martina Baravalle** (both lawyers at mdw) were commissioned with the revision; **Stephan Rixen** and **Elisabeth Staudegger** were involved on the Commission side. In November 2018, the General Assembly approved both the revised Statutes that were resolved by the board, as well as the Rules of Procedure of the Commission.

New Corporate Identity, new Website:

Since summer 2018 the ÖAWI appears in a new design. After 10 years, the entire corporate identity including logo was redesigned. Documents of the OeAWI, such as the brochure "Guidelines for Good Scientific Practice" are successively adapted to the new design. The website was also completely revised and structured in a more modern and interactive way, especially with regard to events and trainings.

New location of the Administrative Office:

Since summer 2018 the Administrative Office is located in separate premises in Landstraßer Hauptstraße. Due to the attractive, central location and the more generous division of the premises, an enormous increase in working quality could be obtained.

Administrative Office-Staff:

Since June 2018, **Armin Schmolzmüller** works at the administrative office of the OeAWI for 30 hours a week. He is responsible for the production of online educational material within the EU-Project VIRT2UE. Further responsibilities are the conceptualization and implementation of trainings to facilitate Good Scientific Practice.

GDPR:

With effect from 25 May 2018, the new General Data Protection Regulation came into force. In order to implement the provisions of the GDPR properly, external experts were called in, as the OeAWI was not able to take over this on its own to the necessary extent.

The data protection regulations were further tightened with regard to the handling of confidential information in the case of enquiries to the office or the Commission for Research Integrity.

2. Symposium 10 Years OeAWI

The symposium entitled "**Research Integrity: Promoting a Culture of Research Integrity**" was held on 10 September 2018 celebrating ten years of the Austrian Agency for Research Integrity. The OeAWI was delighted to welcome 90 participants. The event was part of the FWF BeOpen Festival, internationally orientated and held in English. The contributions of the renowned speakers looked at different aspects of research integrity from equally diverse perspectives.

Klement Tockner, Chair of the Agency, opened the event with a presentation of the agency, followed by a review of the development of the OeAWI by **Christoph Kratky**, founder and Chair of the first hour. Stephan Rixen, Chair of the Commission of Research Integrity, reported on the experience of nine years of investigating scientific misconduct and derived future challenges for the Commission's work. **Lex Bouter**, Chair of the World Conferences on Research Integrity Foundation, gave a keynote speech on the challenges facing science and proposed measures for institutions to cultivate research integrity. **Sabine Kleinert**, Senior Editor at The Lancet, also provided insights into the current challenges in publishing scientific findings and reported on examples of measures that were taken to ensure good scientific practice in biomedicine. **Sven Hendrix** of Hasselt University emphasized the psychological, social and economic consequences for those accused of research misconduct and proposed measures to protect them and whistleblowers. **Ulrike Felt** (University of Vienna) gave a lecture on the historical development of the discussion of research integrity and compared the underlying lines of argumentation. **Karl-Gerhard Straßl and Martina Baravalle** (mdw - University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna)

confirmed in their lecture the importance of prevention for securing good scientific practice and presented a training programme (AKI project) for the mediation of academic integrity and for plagiarism prevention in the art sciences.

At the end of the symposium, Nicole Foeger, Head of the Administrative Office of OeAWI, gave an overview of the extensive activities of the OeAWI in order to promote research integrity, ranging from the investigation of suspected cases of scientific misconduct to counselling and prevention.

The event was reported nationally and internationally (article in the magazine "Nature"), whereby it became clear that the OeAWI - also internationally - is very visible and indispensable.

3. Raising Awareness and Prevention

Train-the-Trainer:

The OeAWI considers itself a driving force for the implementation of the Standards of Good Scientific Practice (GSP) in research. In response to requests of the member organizations of the OeAWI, the agency has developed a training program entitled Train-the-Trainer, which is to demonstrate didactic methods fostering GSP.

The first Train-the-Trainer for GSP took place in Vienna on November 8-9. A total of 19 participants from different member organizations participated actively in this first workshop.

In an interactive setting (case studies, role plays, kick-off speeches), future trainers are instructed in the fundamentals of research integrity, the avoidance of research misconduct and questionable, unacceptable practices. Special attention is paid to the presentation of didactic methods fostering GSP.

The next Train-the-Trainer will take place in Spring 2019 in Vienna. This time the working language will be English.

Working Group on Controlling and Preventing Plagiarism:

The working group met twice in 2018 (June, December). In both meetings the different plagiarism software programs were discussed in detail. The members suggested to draw up a catalogue of criteria as a support for negotiations with software providers. In addition, a more intensive mutual exchange is generally aimed at. Another topic that was discussed at both sessions was the handling of ghostwriting.

At the meeting on December 17, 2018, Karl-Gerhard Straßl and Martina Baravalle presented the activities on the occasion of the "Vienna Days of Academic Integrity", which will take place on September 25-26, 2019 at the mdw. To this extent (1.5 days), this is the first conference in Austria on the topic of "Academic Integrity".

Consultation:

In the course of 2018, the office addressed 35 queries inquiries (e-mails, phone calls, and personal consultation sessions). In terms of their contents, these queries were quite diverse. They pertained to:

- Authorship
- Supervision
- Plagiarism and plagiarism detection software
- Referencing standards
- Data documentation (e.g. electronic laboratory notebook)
- Re-use of large parts of one's own work (e.g. parts of a master thesis included in a doctoral thesis)
- Use of biased scientific surveys
- Cumulative dissertation versus monography
- Misuse of grant funds
- Re-submission of grant applications
- Appointment of external experts
- Appointment procedures and partiality
- Theft of ideas
- ethics approvals
- Bodies for the enforcement of ethics standards or standards of research integrity (e.g., ethics committees, ombudspersons, commissions for research integrity)
- Concerns about ethics of publication and research ethics
- Wage dumping.

Events, Workshops, Presentations:

Workshops and presentations on good scientific practice focus on the following topics: Research integrity in national and international contexts; principles of good scientific practice; planning and implementation of research projects; data management (documentation, data archiving, data ownership, data use in collaborative projects, etc.); responsible use of research findings; publication and authorship; responsibilities and supervision relationship; responsible cooperation with colleagues; conflicts of interest; peer review; research misconduct; “sloppy science”; questionable and unacceptable research practices; discussion of fictitious cases of research misconduct.

Presentations on the Activities of the Agency (OeAWI)

2/13	Lecture (in English) Project meeting INTEGRITY, University of Vienna
6/13	Lecture (in English) AESOP – Advocacy Establishment for Students through Ombudsman Position
9/10	Lecture (in English) 10 years OeAWI; Symposium “ <i>Symposium: Promoting a Culture of Research Integrity</i> ”

Lectures, Workshops, Seminars, and Panel Discussions on “Good Scientific Practice”

3/5	Workshop (conducted in English) Pharmacoinformatics Research Group, University of Vienna
3/16	Workshop (conducted in English) SiS.net Network of National Contact Points for SwafS in H2020 , NCP-Training, Zagreb
4/23	Lecture (in English) Management Meeting of the Science and Knowledge Service of the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) , Ispra
4/24	Workshop (conducted in English) for doctoral students at the course „Grundlagen wissenschaftlichen Arbeitens, Bioethik und Medizinethik“, Medical University of Vienna
4/25	Workshop (conducted in English) for doctoral students at the PhD Center of the University of Vienna
5/30	Panel discussion (in English) COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics), Melbourne; within the framework of the Programme Committee Meetings for WCRI
6/5	Lecture (in German) Department Nursing Science, FH Campus Vienna
7/12	Moderation (in English) „Reproducibility: successes to-date, challenges ahead“, ESOF 2018 Toulouse
9/18	Panel Discussion EU Networking Event "Managing Ethics in Europe and in Austria", FFG
9/26	Lecture (in English) Welcome Days for doctoral students, University of Vienna
10/15	Workshop (conducted in English) on RI and RE, European Center for Social Welfare
11/8-9	OeAWI Train-the-Trainer course (conducted in German)
12/3	Workshop (conducted in English) for doctoral students at the PhD Center of the University of Vienna
12/4	Workshop (conducted in English) PhD Retreat (Vienna Doctoral Programme on Water Resource Systems) doctoral students of TU Wien , Sopron
12/6	Lecture (in English) Publication Services, University of Graz
12/6	Workshop (conducted in English) Doctoral Academy, University of Graz
12/13	Lecture (in German) Prüfärztekurs, Medical University of Innsbruck

4. Activities of the Commission for Research Integrity

The Commission received a total of 22 inquiries in 2018. The OeAWI admin office is responsible for the organization and the preparation of the agenda of the meetings; it supports the members of the Commission in their interaction with external expert reviewers and the individuals and institutions concerned (i.e., universities and research institutes); and it also advises Commission members.

The inquiries submitted to the Commission covered the following topics: disputed right of (co)authorship, suspicion of translation plagiarism, theft of ideas, ghostwriting, various inquiries regarding suspected plagiarism in master theses, dissertations, project applications and conference contributions, incorrect interpretation of data, misappropriated use of funds, assistance in identifying expert reviewers abroad.

New Chair of the Commission:

Stephan Rixen, Chair of the Commission, reached the maximum term of office of six years in 2018 and therefore left the Commission at the end of the year. At the meeting on 23 November 2018, **Gerd Müller** was unanimously elected by the Commission as the new Chair. He has been a member of the Commission since 2015 and is responsible for the field of Natural and Technical Sciences. He will assume the new function with effect from 1 January 2019 for a period of two years.

New Members of the Commission:

Due to the growing number of inquiries related to economics, it was necessary to fill this field with a separate member of the Commission: **Kerstin Schneider**, chaired professor for Public Economics and Business Taxation at the University of Wuppertal, has been covering the economic field since May 2018, which had not previously been covered by the Commission.

As suggested by the General Assembly in 2017, the proposal to admit an Austrian lawyer to the Commission without voting rights was implemented. **Elisabeth Staudegger**, Professor of Legal Informatics at the Karl-Franzens-University Graz, has been an advisory, non-voting member for Austrian law in the Commission since May 2018.

5. EU Projects



European Network of Research Ethics and Research Integrity

The core objective of this EU project is the facilitation of an intensive exchange of information between experts in research ethics and research integrity as well as a harmonization of processes in ethics reviews and investigations of alleged research misconduct. Essential project partners are ENRIO (European Network of Research Integrity Offices) and EUREC (European Network of Research Ethics Committees). The Austrian Agency for Research Integrity (OeAWI) is a member of the ENRIO network and acts as project partner on behalf of ENRIO. The project duration is from September 2016 to August 2019.

Deliverables:

From April 9-10, 2018, a **first training course (RIO Boot Camp)** was organized in Rome for researchers who serve in commissions investigating alleged research misconduct but also for individuals in support functions for such commissions. This way of training was inspired by a similar concept from the US, where selected cases are examined from different perspectives in a workshop.

The participants of the boot camp were 21 members of ENRIO. The boot camp focused on topics as the European Code of Conduct, research misconduct, conflict of interest, authorship and plagiarism, the GDPR, building a culture of integrity, and ethics reviews in non-medical fields.

Another deliverable is the preparation of a **Handbook on the investigation of research misconduct**. The handbook will provide practical recommendations on how to deal with research misconduct and other unacceptable research practices, and should be based on the experiences and findings of ENRIO member organisations.. A first draft of the working group "Investigation" was presented on April 11, 2018 at the ENRIO meeting in Rome. All ENRIO members were invited to comment on the draft. The revised form was made available to the Commission at the end of September. Publication of the handbook is scheduled for early 2019. For more information on ENERI see: www.eneri.eu



VIRT2UE (started in June 2018)

In June 2018, the EU project VIRT2UE (Virtue based Ethics and Integrity of Research: Train-the-Trainer program for upholding the principles and practices of the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity) was launched. The Kickoff meetings took place in Amsterdam on June 27-28;

first developments were reported and discussed at a WP leader meeting in Oslo in October 30-31.

The aim of this EU-project is to develop a sustainable Train-the-Trainer program to facilitate research ethics and research integrity. In order to foster good scientific practice sustainably, the principles of the ECoC (The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity) shall not only be imparted as a number of guidelines but also as a set of virtues. For this purpose, a variety of combinable teaching and learning materials (e.g. e-learning courses, YouTube videos, case studies) will be developed, updated and disseminated among academic teachers. The educational materials will be created to be applicable within a blended learning approach (combination of online training and face-to-face sessions). The OeAWI will make a significant contribution to the production of the online materials, which will be embedded in a YouTube-channel and a specially designed MOOC (Massive Open Online Course).

The results and materials originated from this EU project will be made available via open access on a dedicated online-platform.

Deliverables:

The first deliverables, for which the OeAWI is the work package leader, concern the production and launch of the first YouTube videos on a dedicated channel, as well as the development and launch of the first MOOC courses. The first videos will be available online until the end of November 2019, the first MOOC courses at the end of January 2020.

Since the starting of the project in June 2018, the OeAWI has been working as a work package leader to coordinate the development of online materials. Furthermore, the OeAWI works in close cooperation with the other work packages on the technical implementation and the selection of the contextual priorities of the training.



SOPs4RI (start in January 2019)

SOPs4RI is a new EU project that will start in January 2019. It deals with how individual RI initiatives (Standard Operating Procedures, SOPs) are implemented at the institutions. The idea is to develop a toolbox from which individual institutions can take out what they need to promote integrity of research at their institute and prevent, detect and investigate research misconduct. The OeAWI is responsible for piloting the SOPs in selected institutions, amongst them the FWF. The project duration is from January 2019 to December 2022.

For more information on this project see: www.sops4ri.eu

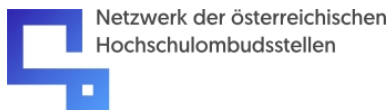
6. National Networks, Cooperations and Events

Working Group of the Austrian University Conference on Research Ethics und Research Integrity

Upon the request of the Ministry, a working group on the topic of “Research Ethics and Research Integrity” was established in April 2018. Chair of the WG is Klement Tockner. There were two meetings in 2018 (April and September); the constitutive meetings was on April 13. The purpose of this working group is to develop a Code of Conduct for Research Integrity (RI) and Research Ethics (RE); as orientation the Dutch Code of Conduct is taken as an example. The OeAWI is strongly involved in drafting a first version.

The Code of Conduct should be designed for all universities, universities of applied sciences and non-university research institutions and should contain clear recommendations for action. It will be designed as a living document and could be adapted if necessary. The completion of the document is scheduled for 2019.

More information: <http://www.hochschulplan.at>



Netzwerk der österreichischen
Hochschulombudsstellen

Austrian Network for Ombudsmen in Higher Education

In order to increase the collaboration of all ombuds offices and support their further growth, an informal Austrian network of all existing ombudsman-offices and similar (mediation) organizations was established in June 2016 in Klagenfurt. The purpose of this network is to create connections across Austria and encourage professional exchange of experiences amongst all members of the network. One of the first joint activities was the production of the brochure "Ombudsstellen und ähnliche Einrichtungen im österreichischen Hochschul- und Forschungsraum" in 2016. The brochure was updated and reissued in 2018.

On May 3, 2018, the network invited to a lecture by Dr. Sebastian Reimer on the subject of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and its impact on research. The aim of the event (with more than 100 participants) was to discuss the topics: To avoid deteriorations for the science and research location, to increase the data quality for science and research as well as to reduce bureaucratic obstacles for science and research.

For more information see: <http://www.hochschulombudsnetz.at>



RRI Plattform
Österreich

RRI-Plattform Österreich

The OeAWI is a member of the RRI Platform. This organization considers itself a competency network. It gathers relevant knowledge and experience connected to national and international RRI projects; it promotes research exchange; it raises awareness of the RRI concept among stakeholders and the general public; it supports RRI projects and through these activities, it

assists implementing RRI in Austria. Every two or three months, the members get together for a meeting.

For more details, see the website: www.rri-plattform.at

7. International Networks, Cooperations and Events



ENRIO - European Network of Research Integrity Offices

The European Network of Research Integrity Offices (ENRIO) is an informal network serving the purpose of promoting the exchange among national and other institutions that deal with questions about research integrity. Nicole Föger was chair of the network from April 2012 and handed over this function to Sanna Kaisa Spoof (TENK, Finland) in October 2018.

ENRIO plans to issue a recommendation on the handling and protection of whistleblowers and persons accused of scientific misconduct. On January 15-16, 2018, a workshop of the internal ENRIO Working Group Whistleblowing took place in Helsinki. External speakers told about whistleblowing away from universities, differences in the protection of whistleblowers in Europe and also about personal experiences as an accused one. The recommendations will be elaborated in further sessions.

The National Research Council (CNR) invited the ENRIO members to Rome for the first of the half-yearly meetings. For the first time since the network was established, more than 40 participants from 23 member countries took part. The National Science Center (Poland) and the Slovak Academy of Sciences (Slovakia) were welcomed as new ENRIO members. Michele Leduc, member of the Scientific Integrity Council (CSI), presented the newly founded French Office for Research Integrity (OFIS). Other guest speakers were Tomasz Foltyniek from the European Network for Academic Integrity (ENAI) as well as Zoë Hammat from the Asia Pacific Research Integrity Network (APRI) and African Research Integrity Network (ARIN). The new basic data protection regulation and the challenges for ENRIO member organisations were also discussed. The meeting concluded with internal working groups on the topics: Training, investigations and whistleblowing.

The second ENRIO meeting took place on October 4-5, 2018, in Stockholm. The meeting was hosted by the Central Ethical Review Board (CEPN). Two new organisations from Luxembourg (Luxembourg Agency for Research Integrity) and France (French Office for Research Integrity) were admitted as new ENRIO members this time. Guest speakers at this meeting were Martin von Arx from the Swiss National Science Foundation, Nik Claesen from the European Association of Research Managers and Administrators and Michelle Bergadaa from the International Institute for Research and Action on Academic Fraud and Plagiarism.

Within this meeting the election of the new chairpersons took place. Sanna Kaisa Spoof (TENK) was unanimously elected by the ENRIO members. Krista Varantola (TENK), representing Sanna Kaisa Spoof, thanked the previous board Nicole Föger (Chair), Torkild Vinther and Asael

Rouby for their great commitment to the development of the network. This was followed by presentations from representatives of the member organisations, internal discussions and an exchange of experiences.

More information can be found at: www.enrio.eu.

MLE - Mutual Learning Exercise regarding RI

The Directorate-General for Research and Innovation has established a Policy Support Facility (PSF) under Horizon 2020. The aim of the PSF is to support evidence-based policy-making with a strong service orientation. To this end, the MLE will identify best practice examples and derive success factors from robust data analyses. Nicole Föger was nominated by the Ministry of Science as Austrian representative in the working group.

This project was initiated by France, 14 countries are participating. The group has chosen the following main topics in the field of research integrity: Processes and Structures, Dialogue and Communication, Incentives and Training. Three country visits (Oslo, Athens and Paris) are planned for 2019.

For more information see:

<https://rio.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/policy-support-facility/mle-research-integrity>



ETINED - Pan-European Platform on Ethics, Transparency and Integrity in Education

ETINED is a network of specialists appointed by the Council of Europe and the Contracting States to the European Cultural Convention. The idea is that high quality education is only achieved and corruption effectively addressed if society commits itself to fundamental positive ethical principles. Nicole Föger was nominated by the Austrian Ministry of Science to represent Austria on the platform. Two meetings took place in 2018. They dealt with topics such as: *Codes of ethics in the teaching profession, Fighting education fraud and tackling corruption in higher education, Promoting a culture of academic integrity.*

More information can be found at: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/ethics-transparency-integrity-in-education>



EnTIRE - Mapping Normative Frameworks for Ethics and Integrity of Research

EnTIRE is an EU-funded project with the aim of creating an online platform on which all information on research ethics and research integrity can be found. Nicole Föger participates in the consortium meetings as a member of the Advisory Board. This is also of great importance for the EU project VIRT2UE, as these two projects are seen as a common vision and the respective results and findings are made available to the (scientific) public on a common platform.

For more information on EnTIRE, see www.entireconsortium.eu



Higher Education Institutions
& Responsible Research and Innovation

HEIRRI - Higher Education Institutions and Responsible Research and Innovation

HEIRRI is an EU project aimed at integrating the Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) concept into the formal and informal training of researchers. Nicole Föger is member of the Multidisciplinary Contents Council (MCC).

In April, the second HEIRRI Conference entitled "**Education towards a responsible society, transforming universities through RRI**" took place in Vienna. The project ended in September 2018, but teaching material is available on the website and a HEIRRI community "**Network on RRI teaching at higher education institutions**" was founded.

More information about HEIRRI can be found at <http://heirri.eu/>



PRINTEGER - Promoting Integrity as an Integral Dimension of Excellence in Research

PRINTEGER is an EU project with the aim to improve strategies of national and international scientific institutions, but also to provide appropriate tools for executives. This project is funded under the Horizon 2020 programme. Nicole Föger is member of the Policy Advisory Board. The final conference took place in February in Bonn called "**PRINTEGER European Conference on Research Integrity**". One of the outcomes of this project is the so-called 'Bonn PRINTEGER Statement' on "**Working with Research Integrity - Guidance for Research Performing Organisations**". The project ended in August 2018.

More information can be found at www.printeger.eu.

PRINT – Practices, Perceptions, and Patterns of Research Integrity

The PRINT project is located at the Danish Centre for Studies in Research and Research Policy (CFA), Aarhus University. The project aims at a detailed mapping and better understanding of research practices in Denmark and a strengthening of the Danish Code of Conduct. The focus is on "questionable research practices (QRP)", the aim being to identify them in the various disciplines. For comparison, the survey is also carried out in other countries, including Austrian universities. Nicole Föger is on the Advisory Board of the project.

More information can be found at <http://print-cfa.dk/about/>

***6th World Conference on Research Integrity in Hong Kong***

The next conference will take place in Hong Kong in June 2019. Nicole Föger is member of the Planning Committee and was elected to the Governing Board of the WCRI Foundation in May. In May, a meeting of the Planning Committee took place in Melbourne, as well as a meeting of the Committee of Publication Ethics (COPE), where Nicole Föger participated in a panel discussion.

Detailed information on the conference can be found at www.wcri2019.org

Participation in policy documents and publications

Recommendations for the Issue of Dual Use:

The Dual Use Recommendations were prepared **by Iris Eisenberger** (BOKU) and were available as a first draft in November 2018. The draft generated great discussion potential among the members at the General Assembly. Therefore, a structured consultation process involving interested representatives of the member organisations will be held. The findings will culminate in the publication of the recommendations.

ENRIO Handbook for the Investigation of Research Misconduct:

In September, the ENRIO Handbook "**Recommendations for the Investigation of Research Misconduct**" was completed as deliverable of the ENERI project. The OeAWI was strongly involved as project partner.

AG HSK zu Research Ethics und Research Integrity:

At the request of the Ministry, this national working group on Research Ethics (RE) and Research Integrity (RI) was established within Universities Austria (uniko). The goal is to develop a code of conduct on RI and RE. The OeAWI is closely involved in this process and is working on the first version of this document, which is due for adoption in 2019.

About the OeAWI

The **Austrian Agency for Research Integrity (OeAWI)** was established as an association in 2008 by its twelve founding members. The association has now grown to 38 member institutions, including all Austrian public universities, universities of applied sciences, various non-university research institutions and research funding agencies. The Agency is funded entirely by its membership dues, the amount of which is based on the size of each member institution.

Key Tasks of the OeAWI:

The Agency makes its knowledge available for the sake of **preventing research misconduct** and **raising awareness**. It also offers advice to inquiring parties on issues related to research integrity. Furthermore, the Agency offers lectures and workshops on the topic of good scientific practice for member institutions.

The Austrian **Commission for Research Integrity** is an independent body of the Agency, which was established to deal with specific cases of alleged research misconduct. The Commission consists of seven members—all of whom renowned researchers in their respective fields. In order to guarantee the independence from the Austrian science and research system, all members of the Commission are from abroad. In May 2018 a scientist from the field of economics and business was added to the previously six members. Also since May 2018 an Austrian legal scholar serves on the Commission as a nonvoting member clarifying questions about the Austrian legal system. The Commission provides a neutral and factual platform for investigating (suspected) cases of research misconduct thoroughly and objectively. It operates on the basis of its Rules of Procedure and the Guidelines for Good Scientific Practice (attached to the Rules of Procedures—available at www.oeawi.at).

The OeAWI is a member of the **European Network of Research Integrity Offices (ENRIO)** and thus internationally strongly connected with similar organizations. At this time, 23 European countries have their national bodies responsible for research integrity represented in ENRIO. From April 2012 to October 2018 Nicole Föger has served as Chair of ENRIO.

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