UCL Statement on Research Integrity

UCL is committed to ensuring the highest standards of integrity in all aspects of its research activities and expects that all those involved with research at UCL maintain a similar commitment. These high standards are essential not only for ensuring the highest quality of research, but through this, the continued trust and confidence of other researchers and the public in research, individual researchers, UCL as an institution and the research community as a whole. The current UCL 2034 Strategy sets out the mission and Principle Themes for UCL over the next 20 years.   The first Principle Theme is 'Academic leadership grounded in intellectual excellence'.

UCL recognises the importance of a collaborative approach to embedding and promoting a culture of integrity, by not only encouraging individuals working in research at UCL to take an active approach, but to support them in doing so though the environment in which they work.

Individuals are expected to be aware of internal research governance as well as any external frameworks or legislation relevant to their area of work. For collaborative and multi-disciplinary research, research teams are expected to share this information across the team and to agree appropriate practices. To support this UCL will work to ensure that internal governance arrangements and policies, as well as any external requirements are accessible and available. It also aims to support to individuals and research teams through the provision of advice and the promotion of relevant training options.

UCL welcomed the *2012 Concordat to Support Research Integrity* and agrees with the five commitments contained within. The four elements of integrity within the concordat which UCL sees as Principles of Integrity, reflect UCL's existing Code of Conduct for Research. It is expected that all staff (including honorary staff), students, visitors and collaborators are aware of and adhere to both the Code of Conduct for Research and the Principles of Integrity as set out below (taken in their entirety from the concordat).

- **Honesty** in all aspects of research, including in the presentation of research goals, intentions and findings; in reporting on research methods and procedures; in gathering data; in using and acknowledging the work of other researchers; and in conveying valid interpretations and making justifiable claims based on research findings.

- **Rigour**, in line with prevailing disciplinary norms and standards: in performing research and using appropriate methods; in adhering to an agreed protocol where appropriate; in drawing interpretations and conclusions from the research; and in communicating the results.

- **Transparency and open communication** in declaring conflicts of interest; in the reporting of research data collection methods; in the analysis and interpretation of data; in making research findings widely available*, which includes sharing negative results as appropriate; and in presenting the work to other researchers and to the general public.

- **Care and respect** for all participants in and subjects of research, including humans, animals, the environment and cultural objects. Those engaged with research must also show care and respect for the stewardship of research and scholarship for future generations.

*UCL Policy states that all publications should be deposited by the author in UCL Discovery upon being accepted for publication, copyright permissions allowing. Note: all papers intended for inclusion in REF 2020 must be deposited within 3 months of acceptance. http://www.ucl.ac.uk/library/open-access