Module on International Collaboration

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Agenda

Module Aims and Philosophy

Key Ideas for Learners

Approach

Conclusions
• Research Security threats and Malign Foreign Influence in U.S. Scientific Research are real problems, as identified by the National Academies of Science, the JASON Science Advisory Board, the Rand Corporation, and as reflected in the NSPM-33 directive.

• But these analyses also stress that efforts to enhance research security must be balanced by continued commitment to international collaboration and support for the U.S. culture of open science.

• This module teaches learners to distinguish between Principled International Collaboration and Malign Foreign Influence by applying Core Values of U.S. Research Integrity to international contexts and scenarios:

  - Openness and Transparency
  - Accountability and Honesty
  - Impartiality and Objectivity
  - Merit-Based Competition
  - Respect
  - Reciprocity
  - Freedom of Inquiry
Key Ideas for Learners

• Understand the vital importance of international collaboration to both the U.S. research enterprise and to researchers themselves.

• Apply the Core Values of U.S. Research Integrity in the context of international collaboration, as a guide to principled decision-making.

• Explore Role-Playing Scenarios, where the right course of action may be ambiguous, on the topics of foreign-talent recruitment programs, reciprocity, and the pressures faced by foreign-born researchers in the U.S.

Don’t shy away from international partnerships just because there may be due diligence to perform on research security.

Openness and honesty are always the best policies. Many security concerns can be cured simply through disclosure to your institution of a potential issue.

Don’t go it alone! Get help from supervisors, colleagues, and administrators. We’re all on the same team.
Approach

- **Customized learning paths** for Students, Researchers, and Administrators
  - Same topics, but different perspectives and vantage points.

- **Interactive graphics**, games, quizzes, and optional “easter-eggs” vary content delivery to keep learners engaged and entertained.

- **Character-driven storylines** utilize intrigue, humor, and pop-culture references to tackle complex, nuanced distinctions
  - Not a lecture, but a relaxed, friendly conversation
  - Model common learner concerns and anxieties
  - Foster an open environment where questions are encouraged
**Interactivity**

Random Super Hard Questions!

**Question 2 of 10  Score: 10**

**CONGRATULATIONS! YOU ARE NOW A**

NUANCE NAVIGATOR

40 percent of all U.S. STEM patents were awarded to foreign-born STEM workers in 2018.


Games!

**TAKE A SHOT!**

Drag the inventors on the left with the items they invented or patented on the right, then click the Submit button.
Interactivity

Animated Timeline Feature:

History of International Collaboration in U.S. Science
Character-Driven Storylines

2 Main Characters:
• Sameer Tanasha, a postdoctoral researcher
• Fatima Kiani, a professor and Sameer’s direct-report.
• Other minor characters come in and out periodically.

Recurring Comedic Elements:
• The two of them are supposed to be following a script.
• But Sameer—a quirky sci-fi nerd—is constantly departing from the script, often to make pop culture references. Sometimes he daydreams, and we see what’s happening in his imagination.
• This frustrates Fatima, who wants their presentation to look more professional.
• But Sameer’s casual asides and departures often reveal deeper anxieties, and we open those up for more “serious” discussions as the scene goes on.
Conclusions

• This module contributes to the development of a Culture of Research Integrity by balancing the need for Research Security with the vital importance of international collaboration.

• By providing learners with values rubrics and experiential role-play, we aim to better prepare students, researchers, and administrators to navigate complex research security decisions that may arise in international contexts.
Thank You!

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