



## RECOMMENDATION

Case: CWI 22 - 04

in the matter of the complaint submitted by

Complainant: dr L. Schneider,

against

Accused: prof.dr B. Hommel, Professor of General Psychology

The Praesidium of the Academic Integrity Committee of Leiden University and LUMC (hereafter: the Committee) is composed as follows:

- dr M.Y.H.G. Erkens, LL.M.,
- prof.dr F.R. Rosendaal.

secretary:

- W.J. de Wit, LL.M

### **The course of the procedure**

The Complainant submitted a notice of complaint against the Accused by letter of 14 June 2022, received on 28 June 2022 by the Committee, regarding a suspected violation of academic integrity.

An extension to the complaint was filed on 20 June 2022.

By letter of 7 July 2022, Complainant was given the opportunity to clarify and substantiate his complaint, as the Praesidium deemed that the initial complained didn't comply with Article 7, first paragraph, under c. of the Regulation. This article states that a clear description of the suspected violation of academic integrity must be given in order to handle the complaint.

By email of 7 July 2022 Complainant gave a further explanation to the complaint.

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### **Complaint**

Complainant refers to a CWI-advice which concludes that another researcher of Leiden University (hereinafter: the Researcher) acted in violation with the rules concerning the academic integrity. He points out that these violations relate to a number of published articles. Complainant states that the Accused (among others) participated as co-author and/or corresponding author in these published articles.

Complainant mentions that only the role of the Researcher has been investigated by the Committee and not the role of the other authors. Complainant deems the Accused guilty of academic misconduct as he is (corresponding) author of some of the aforementioned articles and refers to Accused's responsibility as director of the institute.

Complainant refers to the Research Data Management Regulations of Leiden University (2021) that states the minimal retention period of research data (ten years). Complaint argues that the Accused was responsible for drawing up and evaluating the institute data protocol.

Complainant asks the Committee to investigate his responsibilities in already established research fraud and destruction of raw data as co-author and supervisor.

### **Admissibility**

Under article 5.1 of the Academic Integrity Complaints Regulation Leiden University (LEI) & Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC) (hereafter: the Complaints Regulations), the Committee investigates complaints relating to suspected breaches of scientific integrity and issues recommendations to the Board.

Article 1 of the Complaints Regulations defines violations of scientific integrity as follows: "A written report submitted to the Committee concerning suspicion of a violation of academic integrity by an employee or former employee of LEI or LUMC".

According to article 7.1. sub c., a complaint should be submitted in writing and a clear description of the suspected violation of academic integrity by the Accused.

According to article 7.3. the Complainant is given the opportunity to rectify the omission If any of the conditions listed in Article 7.1 are not met.

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The Praesidium may conclude that a complaint is inadmissible under article 8.4 of the Complaints Regulations when the omission referred to in Article 7.3 is not rectified within the set period of time.

### Considerations

After reviewing the complaint, the Praesidium concludes that the complaint is based on the circumstance that a co-author of an article in which he collaborated, violated the rules on academic integrity. From what the Complainant has put forward however, it does not appear which concrete acts the Defendant has committed that violate the standards of the Code of Conduct for Scientific Integrity 2018. In other words, the complainant did not provide any direct evidence that the accused acted contrary to scientific integrity.

To the extent that the complaint relates to the Research Data Management Regulations, it also applies here that insufficient specific evidence has been provided to justify an investigation into the defendant's conduct. Moreover, it cannot be assumed that acting in breach of research data-regulations will also constitute an infringement of scientific integrity. After all, the Commission assesses complaints on the basis of the complaints procedure against the Code of Conduct.

As the complaint does not contain a clear description of the suspected violation of academic integrity by the Accused, the Praesidium concludes that the complaint is inadmissible.

### Conclusion of the Committee

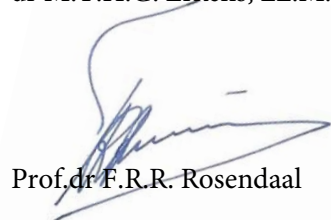
In view of the above, the Committee advises the Executive Board to deem the complaint inadmissible, based on article 8.4 sub a., in relation with article 7.1, sub c. of the Complaints Regulations.

Established on 26 July 2022

The Praesidium,



dr M.Y.H.G. Erkens, LL.M.



Prof. dr F.R.R. Rosendaal



W.J. de Wit, LL.M.  
Secretary