

2017 Annual Ethics Report

OVERVIEW OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Perhaps, the highest profile development in AGU's ethics work during 2017 revolved around the September adoption of a revised Ethics Policy that takes the step of including harassment, bullying, and discrimination in the definition of scientific misconduct. The policy revision was made based on the work of a specially appointed Ethics Task Force, and significant input from AGU Council, Board and members. Adopting of the revised policy represented a significant milestone for AGU and our entire scientific community.

One result of the 2017 AGU ethics policy change and other program offerings, is that AGU is now a sought-after partner for providing resources and guidance that address ethics and scientific integrity issues. Throughout the year, AGU presented invited workshops and presentations on ethics-related topics at various scientific meetings and events, including workshops at the 2017 USGS Water Data Conference, the Society of Exploration Geophysicists annual meeting, the Council of Scientific Society Presidents, and several others. We continue to build stronger and more robust partnerships with a number of scientific institutions and societies.

In August, AGU partnered with investigators from the University of Wisconsin and several other institutions on a four-year grant, "From the Classroom to the Field: Improving the Workplace in the Geosciences" funded by the NSF's ADVANCE program. The effort aims to develop validated bystander intervention workshops to improve and support reporting and reduce incidents of sexual harassment in the Earth and space sciences. Partnering organizations include the Earth Science Women's Network and the Association for Women Geoscientists.

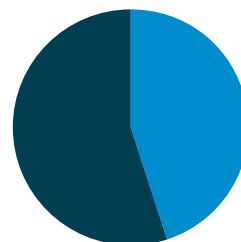
Notable also, the book, *Scientific Integrity and Ethics in the Geosciences*, published in November 2017, includes a chapter

on the evolution of the AGU Ethics Policy written by Ethics Committee Chair Michael McPhaden. Additionally, at the 2017 Fall Meeting, AGU hosted workshops and trainings on bystander intervention, unconscious bias and building inclusive environments. The SafeAGU campaign, in its second year, also promoted a culture of safety at the meeting.

ETHICS COMPLAINTS

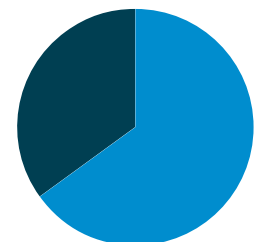
During 2017, nine total complaints were made to AGU's Ethics Committee. Six complaints were resolved and three remain under investigation. Five of the complaints were research-related, which includes issues such as plagiarism and falsification or unauthorized use of data; four complaints were conduct-related, which includes issues of harassment, bullying, and discrimination. One carry-over complaint from 2016 was resolved in 2017. The nine complaints referenced does not include five SafeAGU-reported incidents at the 2017 Fall Meeting, which were immediately addressed to the complainant's satisfaction onsite.

Nature of the Complaint



■ Conduct-related
■ Research-related

Status



■ Resolved
■ Under Investigation

Our 2018 ethics program work continues to help educate members on steps and resources for promoting a safe and inclusive environment for all.