2025 complaints and enquiries

23 Complaints and enquiries about UniSQ research and researchers

Increase on 2024 **43%**
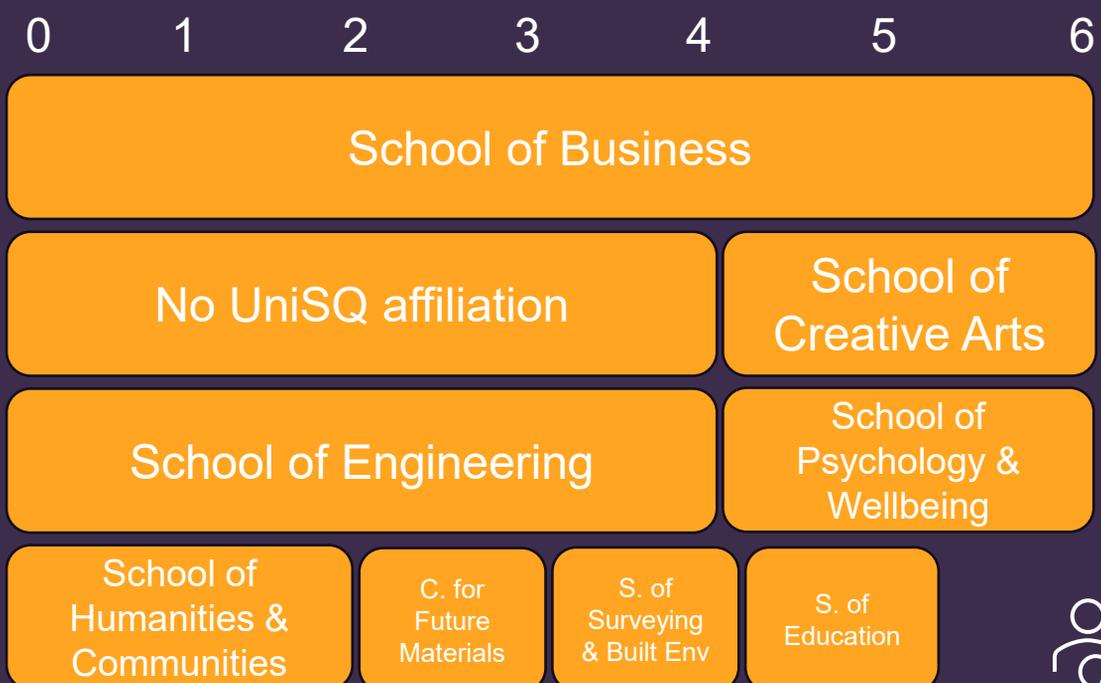
Concern categories

7 Not meeting required research standards

7 Authorship

3 Fabrication, falsification, misrepresentation

2 Conflict of Interest

2 Peer Review

2 Plagiarism

1 Management of data and information

1 Supervision

Concerns may involve more than one category

44% of concerns related to researchers in **Business** and **Engineering**

0	1	2	3	4	5	6

School of Business

No UniSQ affiliation

School of Creative Arts

School of Engineering

School of Psychology & Wellbeing

School of Humanities & Communities

C. for Future Materials

S. of Surveying & Built Env

S. of Education

1.5% Complaints made against a **very small proportion** of UniSQ's researchers

Complaints investigated and resolved

9 Matters involving 23 allegations underwent Preliminary Assessment

Seven matters were able to be resolved at Initial Assessment or at a local level

7

Investigation findings

68%

Majority of allegations involved no breach of the Research Code

0

There were no findings of major breaches of the Research Code

0.3%

A very small proportion of UniSQ researchers breached the Research Code

Majority of matters investigated related to **Business and Engineering** disciplines

University of **Southern Queensland**

Developments, activities and achievements in 2025

18 Current RIA network includes eighteen Research Integrity Advisors

Community of practice

Mar: RIA Community of Practice – Dr Douglass Eacersall on Research integrity in the AI era — **8**

Jun: RIA Community of Practice – focus on authorship — **9**

Aug: Senior Leadership Group – Conflict of Interest training — **60+**

Oct: Professor Jennifer Byrne seminar – Addressing challenges in research publication integrity — **11**

Nov: Research Integrity Interstate Network Workshop – soft skills and approaches to scenarios — **4**

Policy Review: Research Code of Conduct: Management of Potential Breaches Procedure, Authorship Procedure & Agreement. Development: Research Misconduct Penalty Schedule

Slide decks for RIA use on Responsible Research and Conflicts of Interest

Mitigation of issues identified

Several themes and issues were identified as matters were investigated. Steps taken and in progress include:

Further clarity around conflicts of interest and declarations published on Research Integrity webpage

Clarification of animal ethics complaint management in Animal Ethics Procedure

Authorship Procedure and training revised to clarify when to use UniSQ affiliation

Authorship Agreement and training revised to encourage early and continuing conversations

Peer Review Procedure under development to provide guidance in participating in peer review

Student Academic Misconduct Procedure under revision to include HDR student academic misconduct

Review and renewal of research integrity training materials to promote responsible research

Exploring mechanisms to deliver training in responsible research to Honours students

Requested improvement of ethics management system to facilitate monitoring and reporting