

The background is a dark grey or black canvas filled with various colorful, hand-drawn style lines and shapes. These include straight lines, curves, loops, and geometric forms like rectangles and circles in shades of blue, green, yellow, orange, and pink. Some shapes resemble stylized icons, such as a person silhouette or a document with lines. The overall effect is a complex, abstract pattern.

Ethical Misconduct in Research

SCENARIO 5: ACCUSATIONS

Preetama, Herthika, and Ikjot



PART 1: OVERVIEW

The Associate Dean calls you for a meeting and all you know is that your supervisor is VERY upset

You believe that you have been doing well and do not understand where this is coming from.



Scientific Paper Misconduct



From: Supervisor

To: **Student**

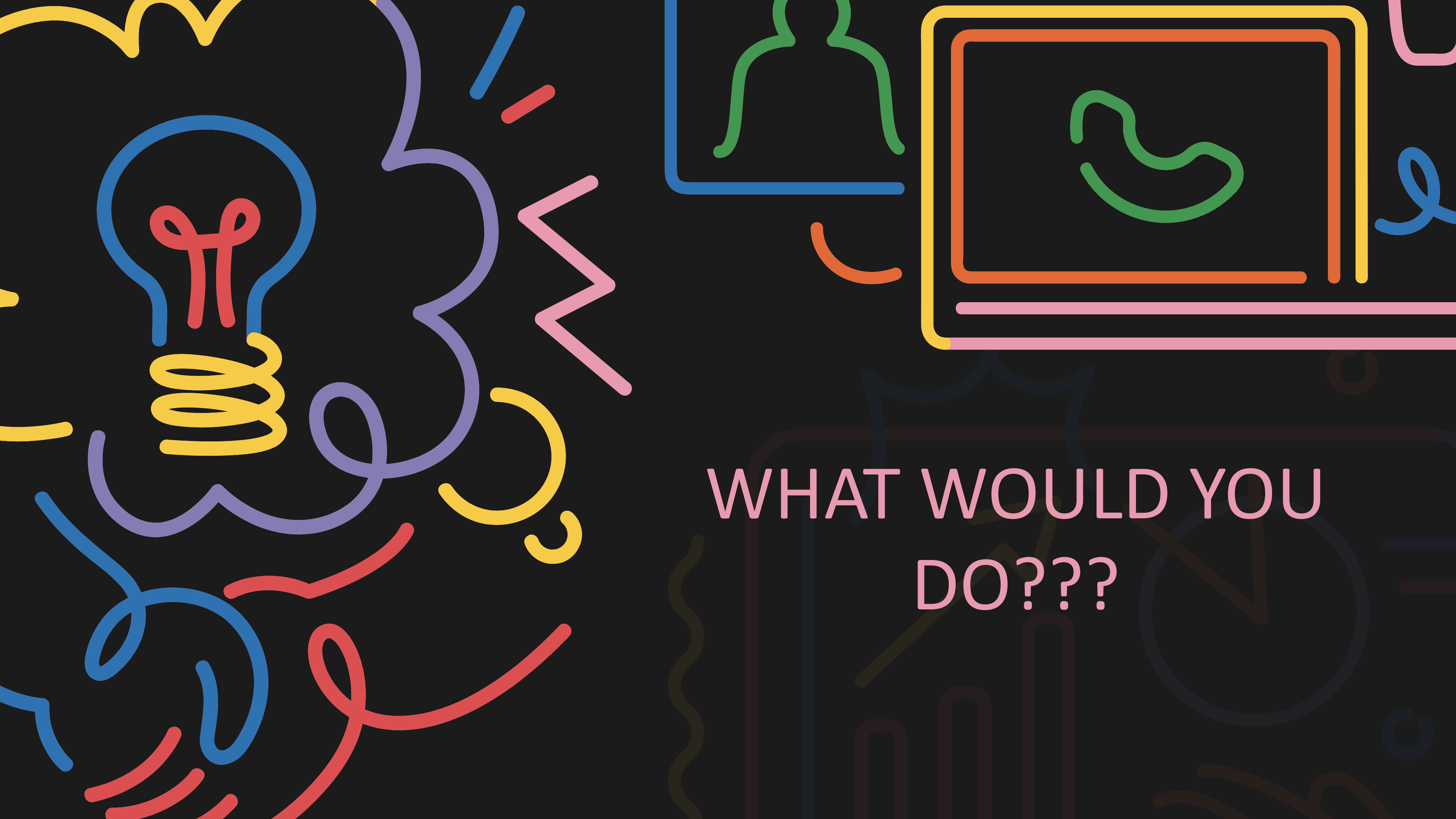


Sun 7/21/2024 8:18 P

Good afternoon,

I just finished meeting with the Dean about the falsification of your data on the recent paper. To say the least, I am very upset about the whole situation. It is completely unacceptable and this reflects negatively on my reputation and this lab in general. Please rectify this situation as soon as possible.

Regards,
Supervisor



WHAT WOULD YOU
DO???

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

- Find out what is considered scientific misconduct
- Be transparent
- Request independent verification
- Apologize if the mistake happened
- Follow up with supervisor and see what are the next steps



HOW WOULD YOU GO ABOUT FINDING OUT WHO THE ACCUSER IS?



Main priority is to clear your
name



Request an independant
investigation



HOW WOULD YOU APPROACH YOUR SUPERVISOR?

Have a 1:1
meeting

Advocate for
yourself

Emotions are
running high

**ONE WEEK
AND ONE
DAY LATER...**



PART 2: OVERVIEW

Another graduate student approaches
you about the situation.



PLAN OF ACTION

1. Gather Evidence

2. Refer to University Policies & Guidelines

3. Speak to the Supervisor

4. Remain Professional & Maintain Integrity



INSTITUTIONAL PREVENTION

Evidence Based
Reporting System

Professionalism &
Integrity
Training/Education



The background is a dark charcoal grey, densely populated with various colorful lines and shapes. On the left, there's a large purple circle with an orange line passing through it, and a red line forming a square frame. Below the square, a red line forms a series of three connected 'U' shapes. A yellow line forms a jagged arrow pointing upwards and to the right. A green line forms a wavy, crown-like shape at the top. On the right, a blue line forms a large, open 'C' shape, and a purple line forms a series of horizontal lines. A yellow line forms a wavy, vertical shape. The overall composition is abstract and dynamic, with lines in red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple.

SUMMARY AND IMPLICATIONS

OVERALL IMPLICATIONS

Accused Student

Individual academic or professional career and reputation.

Supervisor and Lab

Lab environment and reputation within the department or institution.

Accuser

Hindering developments in science for personal benefit.

Institution or Journal

Impacts of retracted paper or lab committing misconduct.

Red Flags

Accusations made with ill intentions and a lack of evidence.

Further information shared through informal means (gossip).

Lack of education and information on investigation or whistleblowing.

Green Flags

Approach focused on maintaining scientific integrity and relationships.

Avoiding gossip and honouring the anonymity of the whistleblower.

Dean reaching out for a meeting with student and supervisor.

The background is a dark charcoal grey. It is filled with a dense, chaotic pattern of thin, hand-drawn style lines in various colors including yellow, light blue, purple, orange, green, and pink. These lines form loops, swirls, and some geometric shapes. On the left side, there are several distinct icons: a blue square with three horizontal green lines, a blue circle containing a red square with two horizontal pink lines, a blue square with three horizontal pink lines, and a yellow square with two horizontal pink lines. Faint, larger-scale geometric shapes like a triangle and a square are also visible in the background.

THANK YOU FOR
LISTENING!

Question and Discussion Period

References

1. Research Fraud: Falsification and Fabrication of Data. Accessed July 16, 2024. https://scientific-publishing.webshop.elsevier.com/manuscript-review/research-fraud-falsification-and-fabrication-research-data/#Protecting_Your_Reputation
2. Cogan E. Preventing fraud in biomedical research. *Front Cardiovasc Med*. 2022;9. doi:10.3389/FCVM.2022.932138
3. Safe Disclosure - Internal Audit - Western University. Accessed July 16, 2024. https://www.uwo.ca/internal_audit/disclosure.html
4. Manual of Administrative Policies and Procedures PROCEDURE FOR POLICY 7.0-Procedures for Addressing Breach Allegations.
5. Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research (2021). Accessed July 16, 2024. <https://rcr.ethics.gc.ca/eng/framework-cadre-2021.html#a3-2>