UEA's Expertise in Generative AI and Research Integrity and Sharing Our Best Practices Across the Sector

As the University is significantly more advanced in its approach than other universities in this area, we have supported other universities and the wider community. Our timeline of developing our own expertise and assisting others is provided below:

2024

17th January 2024 – v1.0 of UEA Ethics Guidance Note on Ethics Review of Research Involving Generative Tools (Lead authors on behalf of UEA: Helen Brownlee (Research Integrity Manager, RIN) with the University Research Ethics Committee - Kate Russell (UREC Chair), Scott Summers (NBS S-REC Chair), Victoria Warburton (EDU S-REC Chair); Information Compliance Team - Sue White (DPO), Emma Gedge (Information Compliance Specialist), and RIN - Anna Collins (Open Access and Research Data Officer), Josh Ludkin (Research Integrity Administrator).

1st March 2024 – v1.0 of UEA <u>Generative AI Policy for Research and Innovation</u> (Lead authors on behalf of UEA: Helen Brownlee, Tracy Moulton, Anna Collins, Faye Outram, Mel Steele).

20th March 2024 – v1.1 of UEA <u>Generative AI Policy for Research and Innovation</u> (Lead authors on behalf of UEA: Helen Brownlee, Tracy Moulton, Anna Collins, Faye Outram, Mel Steele).

20th March 2024 – v1.1 of UEA Ethics Guidance Note on Ethics Review of Research Involving Generative Tools (Lead authors on behalf of UEA: Helen Brownlee (Research Integrity Manager, RIN) with the University Research Ethics Committee (UREC); Information Compliance Team - Sue White (DPO), Emma Gedge (Information Compliance Specialist), and RIN - Anna Collins (Open Access and Research Data Officer), Josh Ludkin (Research Integrity Officer).

June 2024 – UKRIO listed the UEA *Generative AI Policy for Research and Innovation* in its 'AI in Research - Resources'.

8th October 2024 – THES <u>Developing a GenAl Policy for Research and Innovation</u> (Lead authors on behalf of UEA: Helen Brownlee and Tracy Moulton).

9th October 2024 – UEA invited to present at the UKRIO Webinar addressing 'AI and Research: Supporting Research Integrity Through Governance and Ethics'. Dr Scott Summers's slides are available on the UKRIO website: <u>Using Generative-AI Tools in Research: Ethics Matters; How to Operationalise an Effective System.</u>

The Webinar was joined by over 550 attendees and material covered and questions asked during this Webinar have informed UKRIO's 2024/2025 priority workstream on the impact of AI on research integrity.

2025

April 2025 - We note that the University's approach to exercise appropriate caution and adopt responsible practices when utilising generative AI tools is consistent with the UKCORI's Concordat to Support Research Integrity and Generative AI document that highlights the key considerations researchers should take into account regarding research integrity when using generative AI.

23rd April 2025 – the University of Southampton invited UEA to present on 'Maintaining Research Integrity When Using Generative-Al Tools in Research' at their inaugural event on Research Integrity to promote best practice at their institution, titled 'Embracing Research Integrity: Why it Matters'.

29th April 2025 – v1.2 of UEA *Generative AI Policy for Research and Innovation* (Lead authors on behalf of UEA: Helen Brownlee, Tracy Moulton, Anna Collins, Faye Outram, Mel Steele).

29th April 2025 – v2 of UEA Ethics Guidance Note on Ethics Review of Research Involving Generative Tools (Lead authors on behalf of UEA: Helen Brownlee (Research Integrity Manager, RIN) with the University Research Ethics Committee (UREC); Information Compliance Team - Sue White (DPO), Emma Gedge (Information Compliance Specialist), and RIN - Anna Collins (Open Access and Research Data Officer), Josh Ludkin (Research Integrity Officer).

21st May 2025 – the University's Policy is referenced in the Al Topic in UKRIO's newly released online training course 'Introduction to Research Integrity'. UEA was also asked to review this training material at the drafting stage and tested before going Live; UEA has been credited for this and having expertise in Al.

27th June 2025 – UKRIO's <u>Embracing Al with Integrity</u> new guidance for researchers on the responsible use of Al in research, references the University's *Generative Al Policy for Research and Innovation* and has a special acknowledgement of the contributions by UEA. This guidance is part of UKRIO's priority workstream on Al and research integrity.

3rd July 2025 – UEA's expertise in this area is highlighted in UKRIO's <u>24/25 Impact Report</u> sent to over 150 subscribing organisations to support the UKRIO subscription for 25/26.

Mid-July 2025 – Bath Spa University released their <u>Guidance for Using Generative Al</u> <u>Tools in Research</u> that is informed by UEA's <u>Generative Policy for Research and Innovation</u>, which is included in the UKRIO's 'Al in Research - Resources', that is

acknowledged in their 'Reading List and Resources for Researchers' section as is Dr Scott Summers's slides (see above).

17th July 2025 – <u>UKCORI</u> and the <u>Research Integrity Concordat Signatories (RICS)</u>
<u>Group</u> commissioned an analysis of the Annual Research Integrity Reports (from UK
HEIs, Government Departments, other research organisations) for the last two reporting
years (22/23 and 23/24) and UEA is highlighted in the <u>Review of Annual Statements on</u>
<u>Research Integrity</u> for our contribution to sharing knowledge and collaborating to
develop AI use best practices.

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