Implementing *Research Integrity* across higher education institutions in Ireland

OVERVIEW

In this case study we spoke to Dr Jennifer Brennan, Director of Research, Development and Innovation at the Technological Higher Education Association (THEA) and a number of individual institutions about implementing Epigeum's Research Integrity course across higher education institutions and research organisations in Ireland. The project was managed by the Irish Universities Association (IUA) and THEA, working on behalf of the National Research Integrity Forum, which is where the initiative to put this training in place originated.

EPIGEUM'S RESEARCH INTEGRITY COURSE

Jennifer describes the Epigeum Research Integrity course as an essential part of the institutions' overall training programmes. It was needed to provide appropriate training for people at different levels, delivering the same baseline level of training to everybody. So whether it was a small research organisation or a larger one, 'everybody had the opportunity to benefit from the same training', says Jennifer.

THE STATS
SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

Over **30** institutions in the project

99.7% of available tokens used

15,000 researchers trained over 3 years

KEY BENEFITS

Jennifer summed up the main benefit of implementing this training across the Irish higher education & research system as ensuring that **'no one gets left behind'**.

The feedback we received from individual institutions highlighted a sense of unity and cohesion felt across all the institutions. Being a part of something bigger added value and strength to the research integrity training, something which has been reflected in the excellent usage data evidenced across all the participating institutions.

FEEDBACK

'Everybody had the opportunity to benefit from the same training' - National Research Integrity Forum

'Fundamental to funding applications' - IT Sligo

'Phenomenal' - NIBRT

'The research course was vital, as before it was rolled out we didn't really have any formal way of training our staff in this discipline' - Teagasc

'We got great support from Epigeum' - UCD

SUMMARY

The benefits of a nationwide approach to research integrity are clear. It has provided each of the institutions we spoke to with an excellent starting point, allowing everyone to have access to the same baseline of training. For some institutions this was enough, for others it was a brilliant foundation on which to build on further with blended learning. Either way, we are delighted to see how the Epigeum programme has formed an essential part of the Irish approach to research integrity training, and the growth of a wider healthy research culture. Proof of the effectiveness of this project is shown through the fact that it is now continuing for a further three years.

READ THE FULL CASE STUDY ON THE EPIGEUM WEBSITE
www.epigeum.com