



LIGO Laboratory / LIGO Scientific Collaboration

LIGO-M030196-02-Z

8/10/2003

**LIGO Scientific Collaboration
Statement on Scientific Integrity**

Approved by the LSC Council, 18 Aug 2004

Barry Barish, Karsten Danzmann, Gregg Harry, Mike Landry,
Albert Lazzarini, Brian O'Reilly, Peter Saulson, Alan Wiseman, John Whelan

Distribution of this document:
LIGO Science Collaboration

This is an internal working note
of the LIGO Project.

California Institute of Technology
LIGO Project - MS 18-34
1200 E. California Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91125
Phone (626) 395-2129
Fax (626) 304-9834
E-mail: info@ligo.caltech.edu

LIGO Hanford Observatory
P.O. Box 1970
Mail Stop S9-02
Richland WA 99352
Phone 509-372-8106
Fax 509-372-8137

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
LIGO Project - NW17-161
175 Albany St
Cambridge, MA 02139
Phone (617) 253-4824
Fax (617) 253-7014
E-mail: info@ligo.mit.edu

LIGO Livingston Observatory
P.O. Box 940
Livingston, LA 70754
Phone 225-686-3100
Fax 225-686-7189

<http://www.ligo.caltech.edu/>



LIGO Scientific Collaboration Statement on Scientific Integrity

Members of the LIGO Scientific Collaboration benefit from membership in a collaborative community, but with these benefits comes the responsibility to act in the best interest of this community. Members' professional actions reflect upon not only themselves and the Collaboration, but their institution(s), the field of experimental gravity, and the discipline of physics. Every member, therefore, has a duty to act in accordance with the highest principles of scientific ethics.

- Any deliberate act that compromises our search for knowledge, including fabrication or selective reporting of data with intent to mislead or deceive, is unacceptable.
- Honest errors and mistakes are an integral part of the scientific enterprise, so each member must strive to create a working environment where these can be dealt with appropriately.
 - Checking and correcting of results by all members is welcomed. Mistakes must be acknowledged and corrected when they are discovered.
 - A clear statement of how results are confirmed in general and how any particular result was checked will be kept.
 - Raw data will be retained to allow for continued examination.
- All members deserve appropriate commendation for their efforts and contributions to results.
 - Authorship of papers should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution, as determined by the LSC Publication Policy. All those who have made a comparable contribution should be offered the opportunity to be listed as an author.
 - Plagiarism, theft of data, or theft of research results is never acceptable.
 - Acknowledgement of the work of others must always be given.

Scientific integrity issues should be referred to the LSC Spokesperson, who will ensure they are properly dealt with in accordance with the LSC Charter.

Our scientific goals are best advanced when there is mutual trust between all members of the community and honest behavior throughout. Every member of the Collaboration should strive to create a working environment with colleagues, students, collaborators, and others where these conditions prevail.

(This statement includes language from the APS Guidelines for Professional Conduct, <http://www.aps.org/statements/02.2.html>)