

Bard on the cost inflicted by Waseda University professor's misconduct

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Summarize the article: <https://retractionwatch.com/2023/05/18/exclusive-top-tier-university-in-japan-investigating-profs-alleged-misconduct/>

An assistant professor at Waseda University in Japan is under investigation for alleged misconduct. The probe is focusing on at least three works by Woohyang Sim, including her 2020 doctoral dissertation. Two of Sim's published papers are also under scrutiny. Waseda University says it "takes strict measures in dealing with any compliance violation, including research misconduct" but that "currently there is no information that we are able to disclose." Sim did not respond to requests for comment, but in an email she acknowledged that she is "undergoing a research ethic committee process and cooperating fully with the procedure."

Does the problem incur costs to the university?

Yes, professor's misconduct can incur costs to the university. These costs can include:

- The cost of the investigation, which can be significant, especially if it involves external experts.
- The cost of any legal fees, if the university is sued as a result of the misconduct.
- The cost of damage to the university's reputation, which can lead to a loss of students, funding, and prestige.

In the case of Woohyang Sim, the investigation is still ongoing, so it is not yet clear what the total costs to Waseda University will be. However, it is clear that the university is taking the allegations of misconduct seriously, and that it is prepared to take action if they are found to be true.

In addition to the direct costs, professor's misconduct can also have a number of indirect costs. For example, it can lead to a decrease in morale among faculty and staff, as well as a loss of trust in the university's leadership. This can make it difficult to attract and retain top talent, and can also lead to a decrease in productivity.

Overall, professor's misconduct can have a significant financial and reputational impact on a university. It is important for universities to have clear policies in place to prevent and address misconduct, and to take swift and decisive action when it does occur.

References

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