

Suggestions for Enhancing EPA's Culture of Scientific Integrity Questions (56-59)

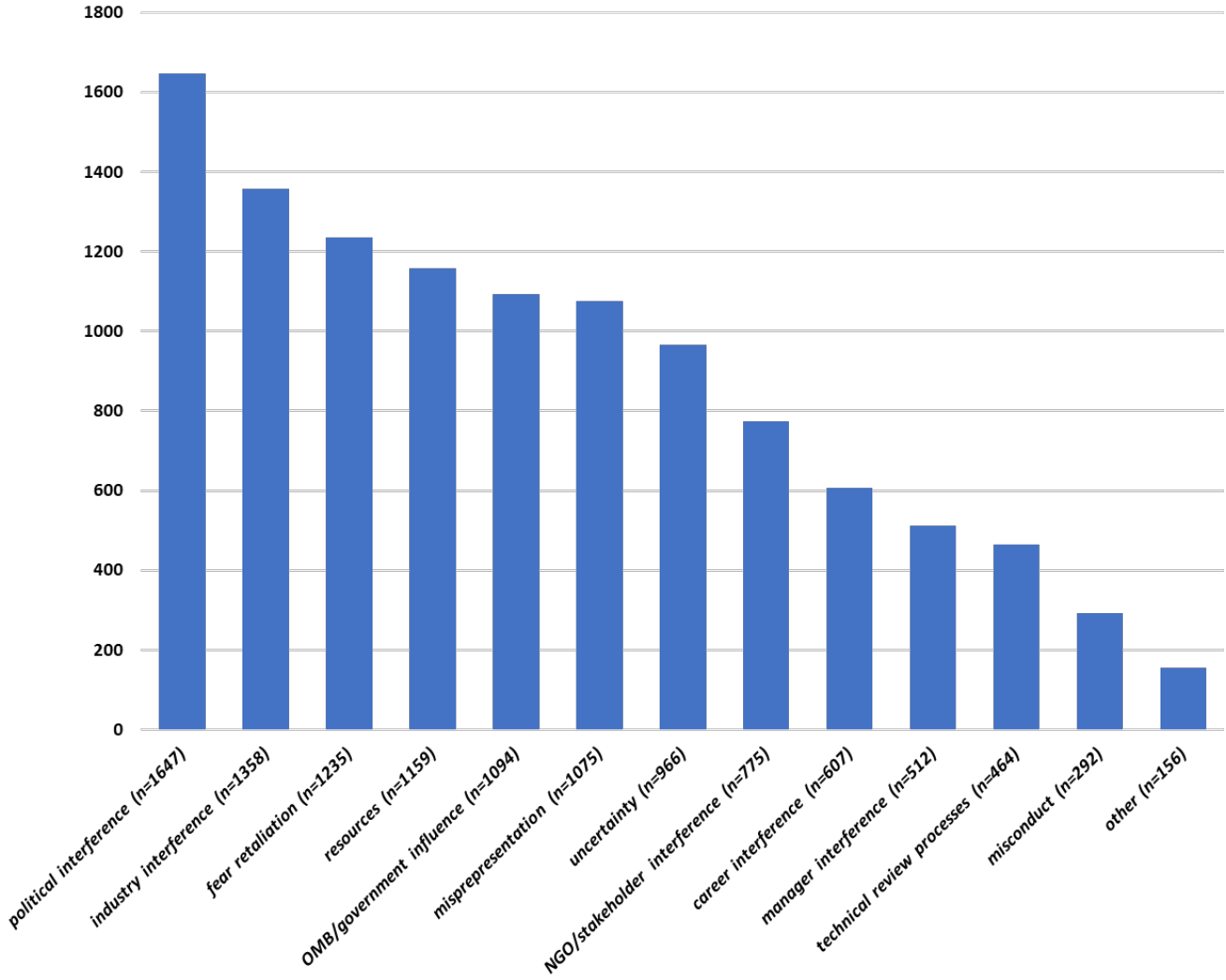
The Obstacles to Scientific Integrity and Suggestions for Improvement section was informed by both the 2016 Scientific Integrity survey and 2018 OIG survey, and new items were also developed. This section identifies the highest scientific integrity issues, useful suggestions for enhancing the culture of scientific integrity, and allows for open comment suggestions as well as sharing of any additional information not previously covered in the survey

Questions required of all participants are marked with an "R" after the question number.

56.(R) Currently, what do you think are the greatest obstacles to achieving a Culture of Scientific Integrity at EPA? (Select your top 5 choices and rank them from 1 to 5, with 1 being the greatest obstacle)	n	%
<i>Fear of retaliation</i>	2668	
Greatest obstacle	372	13.9
2 nd greatest obstacle	197	7.4
3 rd greatest obstacle	195	7.3
4 th greatest obstacle	185	6.9
5 th greatest obstacle	286	10.7
Not selected	1433	53.7
<i>Misrepresentation of science as policy</i>	2668	
Greatest obstacle	175	6.6
2 nd greatest obstacle	263	9.9
3 rd greatest obstacle	229	8.6
4 th greatest obstacle	218	8.2
5 th greatest obstacle	190	7.1
Not selected	1593	59.7
<i>Interference in science by political appointees across EPA</i>	2668	
Greatest obstacle	669	25.1
2 nd greatest obstacle	368	13.8
3 rd greatest obstacle	248	9.3
4 th greatest obstacle	205	7.7
5 th greatest obstacle	157	5.9
Not selected	1021	38.3
<i>Interference in science by career leaders across EPA</i>	2668	
Greatest obstacle	60	2.2
2 nd greatest obstacle	135	5.1
3 rd greatest obstacle	137	5.1
4 th greatest obstacle	164	6.1
5 th greatest obstacle	111	4.2
Not selected	2061	77.2
<i>Lack of appropriate resources (staff and/or funding)</i>	2668	
Greatest obstacle	302	11.3
2 nd greatest obstacle	205	7.7
3 rd greatest obstacle	231	8.7
4 th greatest obstacle	197	7.4
5 th greatest obstacle	224	8.4
Not selected	1509	56.6
<i>Mischaracterization of scientific uncertainty</i>	2668	
Greatest obstacle	119	4.5
2 nd greatest obstacle	186	7.0
3 rd greatest obstacle	213	8.0
4 th greatest obstacle	225	8.4
5 th greatest obstacle	223	8.4
Not selected	1702	63.8
<i>Interference in science by managers/supervisors within EPA</i>	2668	
Greatest obstacle	58	2.2
2 nd greatest obstacle	84	3.1

3 rd greatest obstacle	126	4.7
4 th greatest obstacle	125	4.7
5 th greatest obstacle	119	4.5
Not selected	2156	80.8
<i>Inappropriate influence of nongovernmental and/or external stakeholders (such as advocacy groups)</i>		2668
Greatest obstacle	75	2.8
2 nd greatest obstacle	147	5.5
3 rd greatest obstacle	193	7.2
4 th greatest obstacle	208	7.8
5 th greatest obstacle	152	5.7
Not selected	1893	71.0
<i>Inappropriate influence of industry</i>		2668
Greatest obstacle	213	8.0
2 nd greatest obstacle	339	12.7
3 rd greatest obstacle	327	12.3
4 th greatest obstacle	286	10.7
5 th greatest obstacle	193	7.2
Not selected	1310	49.1
<i>Inappropriate influence of the Office of Management and Budget or other White House offices, or other governmental agencies</i>		2668
Greatest obstacle	191	7.2
2 nd greatest obstacle	270	10.1
3 rd greatest obstacle	230	8.6
4 th greatest obstacle	232	8.7
5 th greatest obstacle	171	6.4
Not selected	1574	59.0
<i>Failures of internal and/or external peer or technical review practices (including advisory committees)</i>		2668
Greatest obstacle	43	1.6
2 nd greatest obstacle	70	2.6
3 rd greatest obstacle	84	3.1
4 th greatest obstacle	101	3.8
5 th greatest obstacle	166	6.2
Not selected	2204	82.6
<i>Scientific misconduct</i>		2668
Greatest obstacle	51	1.9
2 nd greatest obstacle	33	1.2
3 rd greatest obstacle	51	1.9
4 th greatest obstacle	61	2.3
5 th greatest obstacle	96	3.6
Not selected	2376	89.1
<i>Other, please specify</i>		2668
Greatest obstacle	72	2.7
2 nd greatest obstacle	20	0.7
3 rd greatest obstacle	17	0.6
4 th greatest obstacle	8	0.3
5 th greatest obstacle	39	1.5

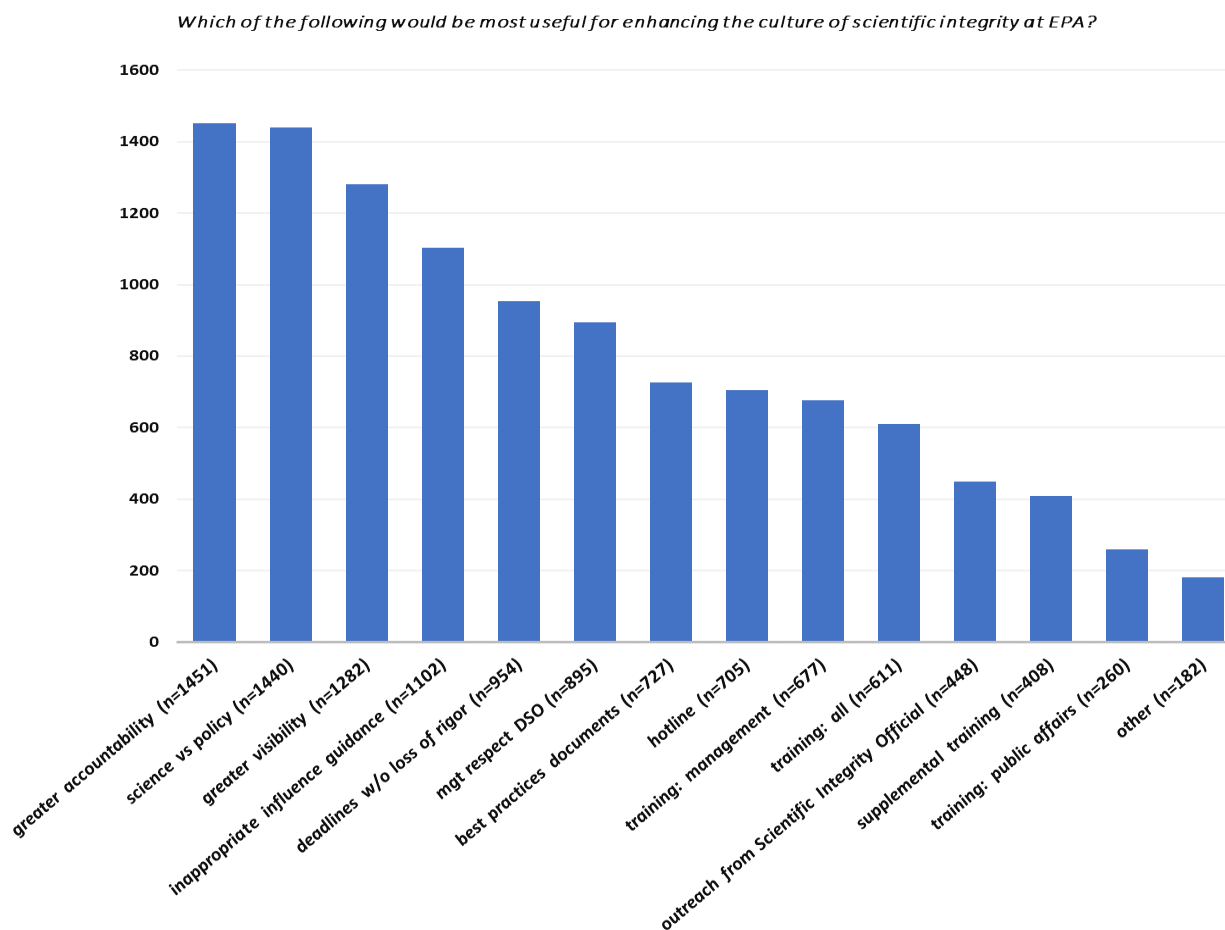
What do you think are the greatest obstacles to achieving a Culture of Scientific Integrity at EPA?



57.(R) Which of the following would be most useful for enhancing the culture of scientific integrity at EPA? (Select your top 5 choices and rank them from 1 to 5, with 1 being the most useful)	n	%
<i>Greater visible commitment to scientific integrity by decision- makers across EPA</i>	2668	
Most useful	502	18.8
2 nd most useful	235	8.8
3 rd most useful	161	6.0
4 th most useful	156	5.8
5 th most useful	228	8.5
Not selected	1386	51.9
<i>Decision-makers across EPA held accountable for violations of the Scientific Integrity Policy</i>	2668	
Most useful	587	22.0
2 nd most useful	389	14.6
3 rd most useful	144	5.4
4 th most useful	164	6.1
5 th most useful	167	6.3
Not selected	1217	45.6
<i>Finding ways to meet deadlines without a loss of scientific rigor</i>	2668	
Most useful	203	7.6
2 nd most useful	208	7.8
3 rd most useful	214	8.0
4 th most useful	178	6.7
5 th most useful	151	5.7
Not selected	1714	64.2
<i>Manager/supervisor(s) respect differing scientific opinions as a legitimate and necessary part of the scientific process</i>	2668	
Most useful	136	5.1
2 nd most useful	212	7.9
3 rd most useful	228	8.5
4 th most useful	187	7.0
5 th most useful	132	4.9
Not selected	1773	66.5
<i>Mandatory training on scientific integrity for all staff every two years</i>	2668	
Most useful	93	3.5
2 nd most useful	90	3.4
3 rd most useful	140	5.2
4 th most useful	142	5.3
5 th most useful	146	5.5
Not selected	2057	77.1
<i>Mandatory training on scientific integrity tailored to upper management</i>	2668	
Most useful	81	3.0
2 nd most useful	161	6.0
3 rd most useful	184	6.9
4 th most useful	141	5.3
5 th most useful	110	4.1
Not selected	1991	74.6

<i>Mandatory training on scientific integrity tailored to public affairs staff</i>	2668	
Most useful	21	0.8
2 nd most useful	50	1.9
3 rd most useful	65	2.4
4 th most useful	68	2.5
5 th most useful	56	2.1
Not selected	2408	90.3
<i>Creation of clear guidance about science versus policy</i>	2668	
Most useful	276	10.3
2 nd most useful	337	12.6
3 rd most useful	358	13.4
4 th most useful	285	10.7
5 th most useful	184	6.9
Not selected	1228	46.0
<i>Creation of clear guidance about inappropriate influence on science</i>	2668	
Most useful	121	4.5
2 nd most useful	244	9.1
3 rd most useful	292	10.9
4 th most useful	271	10.2
5 th most useful	174	6.5
Not selected	1566	58.7
<i>Best practices documents on topics related to scientific integrity</i>	2668	
Most useful	95	3.6
2 nd most useful	112	4.2
3 rd most useful	161	6.0
4 th most useful	168	6.3
5 th most useful	191	7.2
Not selected	1941	72.8
<i>More outreach from the Scientific Integrity Official</i>	2668	
Most useful	53	2.0
2 nd most useful	56	2.1
3 rd most useful	86	3.2
4 th most useful	104	3.9
5 th most useful	149	5.6
Not selected	2220	83.2
<i>Supplemental training on topics related to scientific integrity</i>	2668	
Most useful	43	1.6
2 nd most useful	58	2.2
3 rd most useful	59	2.2
4 th most useful	111	4.2
5 th most useful	137	5.1
Not selected	2260	84.7
<i>A hotline maintained by the Scientific Integrity Program to report allegations of lapses in scientific integrity</i>	2668	
Most useful	89	3.3
2 nd most useful	107	4.0
3 rd most useful	120	4.5
4 th most useful	161	6.0

5 th most useful	228	8.5
Not selected	1963	73.6
<i>Other</i>	2668	
Most useful	85	3.2
2 nd most useful	25	0.9
3 rd most useful	17	0.6
4 th most useful	18	0.7
5 th most useful	37	1.4
Not selected	2486	93.2



58. Based on your understanding and experiences, please share any suggestions that you have for improving scientific integrity at EPA.

Answers to open-ended questions are being separately analyzed and these results will be made available when this analysis is complete.

59. If there are other scientific integrity concerns that have not been covered in the survey, please feel free to discuss them here:

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