Record Nr. UNINA9910456297503321 Goodstein David L. <1939-> Autore Titolo On fact and fraud [[electronic resource]]: cautionary tales from the front lines of science / / David Goodstein Princeton,: Princeton University Press, c2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-60825-8 9786612608254 1-4008-3457-0 Edizione [Course Book] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (185 p.) **UB 5000** Classificazione 500 Disciplina Soggetti Fraud in science Research - Moral and ethical aspects Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Preface -- One. Setting the Stage -- Two. In the Matter of Robert Andrews Millikan -- Three. Bad News in Biology -- Four. Codifying Misconduct: Evolving Approaches in the 1990's -- Five. The Cold Fusion Chronicles -- Six. Fraud in Physics -- Seven. The Breakthrough That Wasn't Too Good to Be True -- Eight. What Have We Learned? -- Appendix. Caltech Policy on Research Misconduct -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- Index Sommario/riassunto Fraud in science is not as easy to identify as one might think. When accusations of scientific misconduct occur, truth can often be elusive. and the cause of a scientist's ethical misstep isn't always clear. On Fact and Fraud looks at actual cases in which fraud was committed or alleged, explaining what constitutes scientific misconduct and what doesn't, and providing readers with the ethical foundations needed to discern and avoid fraud wherever it may arise. In David Goodstein's varied experience--as a physicist and educator, and as vice provost at Caltech, a job in which he was responsible for investigating all allegations of scientific misconduct--a deceptively simple question has come up time and again: what constitutes fraud in science? Here.

Goodstein takes us on a tour of real controversies from the front lines

of science and helps readers determine for themselves whether or not fraud occurred. Cases include, among others, those of Robert A. Millikan, whose historic measurement of the electron's charge has been maligned by accusations of fraud; Martin Fleischmann and Stanley Pons and their "discovery" of cold fusion; Victor Ninov and the supposed discovery of element 118; Jan Hendrik Schön from Bell Labs and his work in semiconductors; and J. Georg Bednorz and Karl Müller's discovery of high-temperature superconductivity, a seemingly impossible accomplishment that turned out to be real. On Fact and Fraud provides a user's guide to identifying, avoiding, and preventing fraud in science, along the way offering valuable insights into how modern science is practiced.