



Online Ethics Center  
FOR ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

# Professors Big and Small

## Author(s)

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## Year

2000

## Description

A scenario that covers ethical issues that arise when a student is not listed author on a manuscript.

## Body

You are a fourth year graduate student and have been working with Professor BigProject for all four years. Professor BigProject is currently completing a manuscript for publication and is to be first author on it. You are to be listed as sixth author.

Your friend, Lyle, who is a second year student in the same department is working with Professor SmallProject. They are also completing a paper. Professor SmallProject is to be first author and Lyle is to be second author.

- How do you see the differences in the relative prominence of each of you on the author lists?
- Is there any more information you would like about the situation? If so, how would you go about getting it?

## Notes

Caroline Whitbeck introduced methods and modules for discussing numerous issues in responsible conduct of research at a Sigma Xi Forum in 2000. Partial funding for the development of this material came from an NIH grant.

You can find the entire sequence on the OEC at [Scenarios for Ethics Modules in the Responsible Conduct of Research](#). Some information in these historical modules may be out-of-date; for instance, there may be a new edition of the professional society's code that is referred to in an item. If you have suggestions for updates, please contact the OEC.

### **Contributor(s)**

Caroline Whitbeck

### **Rights**

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### **Resource Type**

Case Study / Scenario

### **Parent Collection**

Scenarios for Ethics Modules in the Responsible Conduct of Research

### **Topics**

Authorship

Collaboration

Mentors and Trainees

Publication Ethics

### **Discipline(s)**

Research Ethics

### **Publisher**

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