

Code of Ethics

Illinois Institute of Technology

Having voluntarily chosen to associate ourselves with IIT, we—trustees, students, faculty, administrators, and staff—have become beneficiaries of what generations of trustees, students, faculty, administrators, and staff have made. We are also each a steward for this generation and for the generations to follow. For each of us, the benefit deriving from association with IIT depends on the conduct of others associated with IIT. If we each conduct ourselves as we should, all associated with IIT will have good reason for pride. If even a few fail to do as they should, we will all have reason for shame, the benefits of our association will contract, and we will pass on to the next generation less than we might have. This code of ethics is intended to help us all conduct ourselves as we should:

1. Academic excellence. Because IIT's reputation depends in large part on the quality of the students it graduates, research it performs, and scholarship it publishes, we shall do what we can to help students, faculty, and researchers do the best work they can—and to attract to IIT those who can do even better. In this way, we aim to fulfill IIT's mission to advance knowledge through research and scholarship.

2. Academic freedom. We shall seek to ensure to every student a fair opportunity to learn, to every faculty member a fair opportunity to teach, and to every member of the community a fair opportunity to explore human invention in research, design, scholarship, politics, religion, and art.

3. Diversity of thought, culture, gender, and ethnicity. Because we recognize the contribution to education, research, and scholarship that differences in perspective, experience, and history offer, we shall seek to maintain an environment in which those differences may both flourish individually and combine productively in common projects. On this basis, we shall seek to build the IIT community.

4. Mutual respect and human dignity. Because every member of the IIT community deserves that minimum respect due every human being, we shall neither harass, unfairly discriminate against, intimidate one another, nor tolerate others doing it.

5. Personal responsibility. We shall manage IIT resources prudently, taking care that they are not improperly taken for our personal use or the personal use of others.

6. Institutional responsibility. When holding a position of trust within IIT, we shall always act in good faith, exercising at least as much care as an ordinarily prudent person in like circumstances would, seeking to serve the best interests of IIT.

7. Sense of pride and ownership. We shall try to provide each member of IIT's community—trustees, students, faculty, administrators, and staff—with opportunities to help improve IIT.

8. Civic responsibility. We shall conduct IIT business in ways that do not reduce the quality of life in our neighborhood and shall, in addition, as circumstances allow, try to improve our neighborhood, city, state, country, and world.

9. Interest in work-life concerns. Because we recognize that we at IIT also have, or at least should have, commitments beyond IIT, we shall seek to conduct IIT activities so that members of the IIT community can properly honor those other commitments without slighting IIT.