

# Analysis on the WUT Code of Ethics

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## 1 The purpose of the document

A code of ethics and deontology in a University serves as a guiding principle for behavior and decision-making among its faculty, staff, and students. It outlines the ethical values, standards, and responsibilities that individuals in the University community are expected to uphold and adhere to. Deontology refers to a moral theory that holds that certain actions are essentially required or prohibited, regardless of their consequences. A code of ethics and deontology helps to ensure that everyone in the University acts in an ethical and responsible manner, and promotes a culture of integrity and professionalism.

## 2 Principles stated in the document

The principles stated in a code of ethics and deontology are crucial for promoting ethical behavior and decision-making in a university. These principles serve as a guide for individuals in the university community to act in a manner that aligns with the values and expectations of the university.

### 2.1 The Principle of Academic Freedom

The article describes the principle of academic freedom in a university community. It includes the right of every member to express their opinions freely both inside and outside of the university and to conduct academic, research, creative and administrative activities without censorship. The principle is aimed at promoting diversity in opinions, encouraging critical analysis and collaboration. The university prohibits political and economic pressures, religious proselytism, censorship, manipulation, and persecution. The university protects the privacy of its members and promotes equal opportunities. Certain acts, such as political propaganda, religious proselytism, promotion of racist or extremist ideas, defamation, abusive use of academic rights, promoting unethical behavior, damaging the reputation of the university and its members, and restricting freedom of opinion, are considered violations of the principle of academic freedom.

## **2.2 The Principle of Justice and Equity**

This article outlines the principle of fairness and justice in the university community. It states that members of the university must be treated fairly and equitably. Members of the university community must also ensure and accept fair allocation of resources, prevent and eliminate discrimination, provide equal opportunities for access to studies and resources, and eliminate conflicts of interest. Violations of this principle include discrimination, exploitation, abuse of power, corruption, favoritism, and nepotism.

## **2.3 The Principle of Professionalism**

Article 6 of a code of ethics and deontology outlines the principle of professionalism in the university community. Members of the community are responsible for ensuring a high-quality academic environment for research and education. Each member of the community, including faculty, is responsible for the quality of the educational process in which they are involved and must maintain a high level of expertise in their field. Faculty must provide appropriate course material, deliver lessons, guide students, and evaluate and communicate exam results. Violations of the principle of professionalism include imposture, superficiality, disinterest, deviation from course material, intentional misinterpretation of research results, promoting a single viewpoint, and using unfair evaluation methods.

## **2.4 The Principle of Honesty and Intellectual Fairness**

This article outlines the principles of honesty and intellectual integrity. Members of the academic community are required to respect intellectual property rights and to acknowledge the contribution of all parties involved in research projects when publishing research results. Any form of intellectual fraud or counterfeiting constitutes a violation of the principle of honesty and intellectual integrity, including plagiarism, cheating on exams and competitions, falsifying research results, impersonating someone else during an exam, using the work of colleagues and students as one's own, writing assignments for students, and attempting to bribe someone to commit fraud.

## **2.5 The Principle of Transparency**

According to the article, members of the university community must respect the principle of transparency in regards to information about the university. They have an obligation to provide transparent information about admission and degree exams, employee evaluations, student evaluation criteria, and job responsibilities. Hiding, altering, or falsifying information that members of the university community and the public have a legal right to is considered a violation of the principle of transparency.

## **2.6 The Principle of Professional and Social Responsibility**

The article states that members of the university community at WUT are encouraged to be active and involved in the professional, economic and social problems of the local community and society and to demonstrate positive attitudes and responsible civic behavior. They must respect the provisions of the code of ethics and deontology without being able to express personal opinions that would commit or represent the official position of WUT. Members of WUT have the right to publicly criticize individuals in the university environment, based on arguments, without this right being exercised in an abusive or defamatory manner. Violations of the principle of professional and social responsibility include disinformation, slander, public denigration of study programs and members of the university community, and abusive exercise of rights.

## **2.7 The Principle of Integrity**

The article outlines a code of ethics and deontology for members of the academic community, focusing on the principle of integrity. Members must avoid situations of incompatibility and conflicts of interest and are prohibited from engaging in acts of corruption or other acts that would affect their integrity and harm the reputation of the institution. Conflicts of interest can arise from personal relationships, multiple roles, material interests, external collaborations, and other commitments. In the case of a conflict of interest, the individual must inform the competent authorities and refrain from making decisions that affect close relatives. If the conflict of interest occurs in the context of examination or evaluation, the teacher must inform the competent authorities and request to be replaced. Examinations involving close family members are not allowed. It also outlines the rules regarding conflicts of interest for those serving on committees evaluating and promoting employees. People cannot serve on committees if they are related (spouses, relatives, or close family) to the employee being evaluated, or if they have a personal or financial relationship with the employee. The article also states that if an employee wins a competition, their appointment can only be made after any conflicts of interest are resolved. Additionally, family members cannot hold leadership positions or control/authority positions in the same department, or serve on committees evaluating degrees or dissertations. People must disclose any conflicts of interest and refrain from making decisions that may create the appearance of a personal interest.

## **2.8 The Principle of Collegiality**

The article outlines the principle of collegiality and the obligations of members to respect each other's dignity and personality, to collaborate with each other, to respect each other's differences, to provide support and cooperation, and to keep confidential information shared between members. The article also defines violations of the principle of collegiality, such as discrimination, harassment,

insulting behavior, discrediting colleagues, and making inappropriate comments about their professional or moral preparation.

## **2.9 The Principle of Loyalty**

Articles 28-30 of the code of ethics and deontology define the principle of loyalty in the context of WUT. Members of the university community are obligated to act in the university's interest, support its goals, strategies, and policies, and contribute to its mission and competitiveness. The university values commitment and loyalty from those who build their academic careers within it, without discouraging public life or involvement in other activities. The code outlines certain actions that would be considered violations of the loyalty obligation, such as actions that lead to loss of rights, competing academic or research activities, advising students to abandon the university's courses, engaging in activities that significantly affect the time dedicated to teaching and research, and actions that discredit the university or affect its image and prestige.

## **3 What does the paper mean for me personally**

The paper sets a standard for professional conduct and behavior, and guides individuals in making ethical and responsible decisions in their professional life. For an individual, it represents a set of principles and values to adhere to, such as honesty, integrity, loyalty, and respect, and provides guidance on how to handle difficult ethical situations. Following a code of ethics and deontology helps to build trust and credibility with colleagues, clients, and the wider community, and supports the individual in maintaining high standards of professional conduct.

## **4 Does this code serve its purpose in the real life?**

The effectiveness of a code of ethics such as the one described above depends on various factors, including how well it is understood by those it is intended to influence, how well it is enforced, and how well it aligns with cultural and societal norms and values. Ultimately, whether a code of ethics serves its purpose in real life depends on how it is perceived and acted upon by those who are subject to it. In my opinion, this code of ethics serves its purpose in the real life, successfully establishing a set of principles and values that guide the behavior of individuals within the WUT community.