Path2Integrity

S3

"Researchers comply with codes and regulations"
(ECoC 2017, p. 7)

Description and background

This learning unit:

- *Introduces students to research codes and regulations safeguarding research integrity*

- *Encourages students to persist in an open and transparent, logical and reasonable rational dialogue about research codes*

- *Emphasises safeguards by which research integrity is maintained*

- *Requires criteria for the promotion of good research and the dialogue on it*

An advocate for research integrity

Bogusława Dorota Gołębniak

Keywords

Research codes and regulations; good research practice; structural violence; respect; openness and transparency

This unit has been prepared for non-disciplinary learning groups.

Learning objectives

1 *Refer to codes and regulations*

2 *Listen actively and present own wishes, aims and goals*

3 *Establish an open and transparent, logical and reasonable dialogue about research codes and regulations*

4 *Realise that structural violence hinders good research*

Learning stages

1 *Become familiar with the topic*

2 *Dive into an interesting story*

3 *Invent characters*

4 *Engage in rotatory role play*

5 *Identify criteria for good research*

"If science is to serve society – whether by providing applications resulting from research findings or by providing knowledge that facilitates understanding of the processes in which we find ourselves – research results must be reliable knowledge."
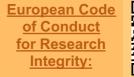**(Bogusława Dorota Gołębniak, an advocate for research integrity)**

1 Become familiar with the topic:

Homework (before the unit starts) or reading session

Read the paragraph on safeguards in "The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity" and discuss the meanings of any unknown words.
Now, think about protective measures that play an active role at your institution.

European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity:

2 Dive into an interesting story:

Review or look up the story from LONA Science Centre (video or text). Together, discuss which research integrity safeguards are at risk here. Try to answer the following questions by telling different endings of the story:

- Do researchers follow their codes for research integrity?
- Do researchers respect their research subjects?
- Do researchers respect the welfare and safety of the community?
- Do researchers consider possible risks?
- Do researchers realise significant differences in their protocols?

3 Invent characters:

Put yourself in the situation in which Prof. Weis and her colleague are in conflict. How does Prof. Weis experience the problem? What is her colleague's position? What is on their minds and what could they say?

Draw the counterparts on a piece of paper and add speech or thought bubbles to the sketches. Pass your sheets through the class and read the other figures' speech bubbles carefully.

Collect all the sheets and put them on the wall. Meet in front of the wall as a class and read some of the speech bubbles out loud!

4 Engage in rotatory role play:

Now come together in pairs and do a role play.
Put all the tables and chairs aside and spread out in the room. Play a dialogue between Prof. Weis and her colleague, in which both present their thoughts, concerns, wishes and goals. **Carefully listen to your counterpart.**

In the role of Prof. Weis, demand an open, transparent, logical and reasonable dialogue on the acceptance or rejection of research codes and regulations. Request your colleague not to force anyone to agree to ambiguous arguments but to justify their statements. In the role of the colleague, do not stick to your opinion even though you know better, but accept better arguments and remember that the power of your social status cannot replace good arguments.

Switch roles.

What makes a good argument for maintaining research integrity? Collect basic characteristics, objectives and possible obstacles to argumentation on a chalk board or flipchart.

Researchers should...

1. express interest and remain unprejudiced;
2. be able to communicate and justify their argument;
3. be ready to explain where their argument comes from;
4. reason logically and in a way that is easy to understand.

5 Identify criteria for good research:

Put all the tables and chairs back in place. Discuss the following questions with the person sitting next to you:

- What arguments for compliance with principles of research integrity are most convincing?
- How can you resolve the conflict of interest or end the conflict situation?

Each of you should write down one rule (expanding the collection from the yellow box) using the following phrase: *To enable an open and transparent dialogue at eye level about research codes and regulations, researchers should…*