

SUPSI

Ethical Code

Approved by the SUPSI Board on 11 December, 2015

Version 1, 11.12.2015

Version 2, 24.06.2016

Version 3, 02.05.2018

Version 4, 01.09.2018

With the Ethical Code we state that **Integrity**, **Collaboration** and **Responsibility** are the three fundamental guiding values to which, as a university community, we must aspire, fostering the recognition of and respect for individual rights, equal opportunities and the assumption of responsibility toward the Institution.

Integrity

In relations with other people, both within our Institution and externally, we pursue our objectives in accordance with the principal of moral integrity, understood as propriety, intellectual honesty, mutual respect and loyalty.

We mean to be a place where everyone can express themselves freely, discuss ideas and work in an atmosphere of serenity and dialogue free of impositions, to enable mutual cultural as well as human growth in enhancement of the individual and of the various cognitive expressions.

We act independently, rejecting all forms of opportunistic behaviour promoting personal or group interests, and above all refusing to accept any inappropriate influence.

We are committed to ensuring that, in accordance with the legal and regulatory framework, staff members and students, from any ethnic or socio-cultural background, can achieve their potential freely, irrespective of their political affiliation, religion or sexual orientation.

We identify ourselves with the principles of active, open and honest communication, both internally and externally.

We are committed to providing objective motivations regarding all significant decisions.

In the research field we apply the "Fundamental principles and procedural regulations pertinent to integrity in scientific research", published by the Accademie svizzere delle scienze (Swiss Academies of Science), as well as the fundamental ethical principles specified by the European Commission.

Collaboration

We actively seek collaboration relationships, and we perceive these relationships in ways that generate added value for everyone involved, both within and outside the Institution as well as for the many external stakeholders.

We promote a collective spirit and teamwork, interpreted as in keeping with an interdisciplinary and inter-professional approach aimed at generating mutual respect and trust, in the conviction that only this way a contribution can be made to tackling the complex problems typical of contemporary society.

We believe that the diversity of institutions and individuals provides opportunities for discussion, dialogue and growth.

By collaborating with our partners, we explicitly overcome structural, geographic and linguistic barriers.

We pursue a relationship of continuous dialogue with the local territory for which we operate, with the aim of promoting the values and features of Southern Switzerland, both in Switzerland and abroad.

We facilitate dissemination of generated knowledge by extending it to the widest possible circles of interested parties.

We are committed to respecting the privacy of the people and/or organisations whose private or confidential details we hold.

Responsibility

We operate in compliance with environmental, economic, social and cultural responsibilities, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development, particularly in terms of human resource and financial management, and also in terms of the infrastructures.

We recognise the value of the dialogue and reciprocity between teachers and students and support them, particularly by applying the SUPSI Educational Agreement¹.

We are aware of our social responsibility towards the development of the society and we act accordingly, in the typical manner of an academic Institution.

We responsibly acknowledge scientific research autonomy and pedagogic freedom as fundamental values for the creation and dissemination of knowledge.

We strive to ensure that all members of the academic community are respected equally, in a fair, correct and impartial manner.

We try to identify and anticipate the needs of the various areas of society and we are committed to meeting these needs by means of appropriate educational, research and service activities.

We promote health, safety, wellbeing and further professional and personal development of all those who work or study at SUPSI.

We promote and support autonomy, independence and individual responsibility of all staff members and students.

¹ Modified by SUPSI Board on 24.06.2016

Compliance with the Ethical Code, and Measures

It is our task to promote the widespread dissemination of our Ethical Code, using the means believed to be most appropriate.

All members of staff, managers, directors and Board Members must examine the Ethical Code and comply with its regulations.

The Ethical code is considered an integral part of the employment contract. Its content is acknowledged and confirmed by the employee by signing the work contract.

In any case, the "recommendations related to the management of irregular conduct in the scientific field" specified in the "Fundamental principles and procedural regulations pertinent to integrity in scientific research", published by the *Accademie svizzere delle scienze*, will apply.

The Board establishes an Ethical Commission whose purpose is to provide consultation, to monitor the correct application of the conduct regulations and to revise the Ethical Code. Any staff member can initiate the intervention of the Ethical Commission by addressing to the President of the Ethical Commission an opinion request including a description of the reported issue and relatives supporting arguments to the following email: comitato.etico@supsi.ch.

Should any violation to the code be ascertained, the Ethical Commission may propose to the SUPSI Board, or to another court (for minor violations and if delegated by the SUPSI Board), the implementation of disciplinary sanctions. For the affiliated schools the Ethical Commission will report to the specific reference body (Consiglio di Fondazione Thim Van der Laan, Consiglio di Fondazione del Conservatorio della Svizzera italiana, Consiglio dell'Associazione Accademia Teatro Dimitri, Consiglio di Fondazione della Fernfachhochschule).

The Ethical Commission is formed by one member of the Board, who acts as President, an external member who is permanent, and a third member who is appointed for each individual case on the basis of their specific expertise related to the issue in question.

In the course of its judgement procedures, the Ethical Commission adequately involves the staff members who are being judged, and also their supervisors.

Attached documents

Fundamental principles and procedural regulations pertinent to integrity in scientific research, *Accademie svizzere delle scienze*.

Validity of the Ethical Code

This Ethical Code is valid as from 1st september 2018 and replaces the previous one dated 2 May 2018.

Manno, 1st september 2018

The President of the Board, Alberto Petruzzella

The General Director, Franco Gervasoni