

Code of ethics at universities & the privacy rights

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Abstract: *Ethics plays a vital role in the educational system which cannot be disregarded regardless of any circumstances. A code of ethics refers to a set of principles and rules by individuals to show their commitments and morals in the decision-making process. A proper code of ethics will assist to run the system smoothly ensuring the integrity and discipline, therefore, protecting the interest of both teachers and students. This article sheds light on the issues centering around the code of ethics existing in the learning environment in universities and some concerns about the malicious violation of the teachers' privacy rights which exerts unexpected consequences in their daily life.*

Keywords: *Code of ethics, educational system, misconducts, privacy rights*

Introduction of code of ethics

Education is also a basic method of human life encompassing the vital and productive role of ethics applied in the educational system. Ethics facilitates the functioning of an organization, therefore, students should be taught and grow ethically and be well aware of the difference between ethics and morals. The school should shape the ethical values of individuals outlining the essential standards of behaviour in specific contexts. Morality and ethics are closely interrelated and complement each other to build up a person's personality. Ethics is defined as a moral ideology, which defines what the ideal human nature and conduct should be. It is also a field of study that deals with moral principles which is different and personal for each individual. It determines an individual's response and reaction to a particular situation from which it reflects the true inner traits of each individual. Therefore, it is easily understood that the relationships between teachers and students can either flourish or ruin depending on the code of ethics as well as the morality. From the educational perspective, positive relationships within a school will surely lead to the improvement in the educational quality which is regarded as one of the compulsory factors determining the school's reputation in parallel with the school's prestige.

Code of ethics for teachers

In the context of current globalization, ethical issues are understood as a combination of three factors in terms of professional ideals, professional ethics and professional techniques. Teachers are expected to maintain professionalism, respect diversity, and provide a safe and inclusive learning

environment. A code of ethics for teachers should also promote maintaining confidentiality and avoid engaging in any form of discrimination or harassment. Teachers are a critical component of a student's education, and their ethical behavior plays a prime role in creating an effective learning environment. Teachers who uphold high ethical standards and display professionalism help to build trust and respect with their students. This, in turn, creates a safe and comfortable environment for students to learn. A well-defined code of ethics will help teachers negotiate difficult times during the life of their career, especially when dealing with impudent students or impertinent remarks creating conditions for teachers to be psychologically stabilized to perform their duties well.

Each teacher should be dedicated to and enthusiastic about their teaching profession while still strictly complies with the rules and regulations set by the school and the administration authority to ensure the common interests. Additionally, the teaching staff should exhibit fairness through class management and assessment activities to promote solidarity and cooperative learning environment among students.

Code of ethics for students

Code of ethics for students is a form of social consciousness, which is a synthesis of social rules, principles and standards through which people voluntarily adjust their behavior to meet the requirements by the school, the teachers, or the contingent of cadres to serve the social progress. The code of ethics for students instills important values such as honesty, responsibility, and respect

for authority. Students are expected to uphold academic integrity, respect the rights of others, and engage in ethical decision-making. The code of ethics for students should also emphasize refraining from cheating, plagiarism, and engaging in honest and respectful interactions with their peers and teachers. Such ethics can help create a conducive learning environment which is a great attribute to the students' academic performance.

Each student needs to identify the learning process as the main task composing of building the right learning motivation, absorbing the knowledge and experience of the lecturers, as well as being proactive and creative in learning to concretize knowledge into real life. Mastering knowledge, accumulating skills, gradually forming proper professional attitudes at school represent building bricks for the foundation of the country.

Teachers' privacy rights

Privacy rights are essential in the education system, particularly the personal information of students and teachers. Schools are required to protect this information and only disclose it when necessary and with the consent of the individual. Failure to protect privacy rights can compromise the safety and well-being of individuals in the education system. It is therefore a must that students and teachers understand the importance of protecting privacy rights and their role in ensuring that their privacy is protected.

It is undoubtedly that the degradation of moral values among students has been an emerging issue. The social media is flooded with such news and status concerning the moral degradation of university students. Morally degraded students are admitted into good institutions with excellent teaching staff and well-rounded curricula from which their ill-mannered conducts and behaviors can either directly or indirectly impact the teachers' prestige causing extensive annoyances and sufferings both physically and psychologically.

In fact, the sincerest gratitude should be rendered to teachers who have devoted their efforts and restless energy into valuable lessons, such students with malicious conducts even exceed their limits and abuse their rights to exploit their energy and turn the teachers into victims of cyberbullying and identity theft to sabotage their life. As a consequence, their mental wellbeing is severely injured with overlapping burdens throughout their life.

What is being explained and discussed in this article is an alarming message to their families to reflect their conducts and intentions. Students should adequately realise their rights and obligations and should respect the teachers' confidentiality. Every institution should facilitate teachers to raise their own voice and prioritize the teachers' security rights. The teachers on the whole should be vigilant of their identity at all time and create the best line of defense. Once teachers understand privacy, security, and confidentiality in their classrooms, consequences can be partially alleviated. Safeguarding privacy must be a shared goal and responsibility among all education stakeholders and the enforcement of rules and regulations should be strictly applied within the students' rights. Any committed acts by those students should face harsher prosecution.

Institutional roles in shaping students' conducts

The core functionality of any educational system lies in its ability to actualize the goals of education to serve the national multi-faceted development. Education is the process of training individuals to acquire relevant knowledge, skills, to adjust their conducts and to consolidate their competence that will empower them to grow ethically to contribute to the driving force of the country. Schools incorporate a student code of conduct that they expect their students to follow. However, the development of a well-written student code of conduct should be tailored to suit their specific goals and their common missions. The student code of conduct should be annually evaluated and might be periodically changed depending on the severity of the existing problems to fit the ever-changing needs of the school community. Appropriate solutions to various misconducts by students and their implications should be further discussed on the basis of concerns and worries of the whole society, especially of those teachers in charge.

Conclusion

The code of ethics for teachers and students as well as privacy rights constitute vital components of the educational system. These ethics help to formulate a safe and conducive learning environment, instill indispensable values, and protect the personal information of teachers. Maintaining high ethical standards and protecting privacy rights play a critical role to the success of the educational system. It is the responsibility of all stakeholders at all levels, to uphold these ethical standards and protect privacy rights. By doing so, the education system can achieve