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ETHICS AND DEONTOLOGY

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RESUME

This chapter outlines the core values that define a university's mission and character

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CHAPTER 04 : UNIVERSITY VALUES

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The university, as an institution of higher education, embodies a fundamental pillar of modern society, carrying within it the profound values of knowledge, equity, and interaction with the community. It is a place where the human spirit is encouraged to flourish, where the diversity of ideas and cultures combines to form a melting pot of learning and innovation. The university is not only a place to acquire skills and qualifications but also a sanctuary for reflection, exploration, and commitment to the common good.

At the heart of every university lies an unwavering commitment to intellectual, ethical, and moral values. It conveys the idea that education is a constant quest for truth, a perpetual journey of discovery, questioning, and redefinition. The university values academic freedom, guaranteeing professors and students the possibility to explore all facets of knowledge without fear of repression or censorship. It is an institution that promotes intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and open-mindedness, thereby fostering progress in the sciences, arts, and society as a whole.

However, the university is not confined to academic isolation; it is closely linked to the society that surrounds it. It plays a crucial role as an actor in interaction with the community, contributing to its economic, cultural, and social development. Universities form enlightened and engaged citizens, ready to meet challenges.

De facto, the values constituting the basis of teaching are essentially:

- ✓ Dedication to the quest for scientific truths.
- ✓ Sharing of knowledge.
- ✓ Autonomy and freedom of thought and expression.
- ✓ Rigor in the analysis of data and evidence following syllogisms and reasoned argumentation methods.
- ✓ Gathering others' approaches and methodically analyzing third-party viewpoints.

Alongside these values, belonging to a university imposes upon us a set of ethical and deontological rules crystallized in social values, community values, and others of a professional nature.

I- Social Values

Being an active partner in the development of society, contributing to its prosperity and progress, the link between the university and society is an essential synergy, where teaching, research, and public service converge to shape a modern society. Universities are engines of progress, providing society with educated individuals ready for social and professional integration.

This dynamic relationship between the university and society is an example of fruitful interaction, where higher education becomes the driving force of a more enlightened and progressive society. But to achieve these objectives and goals, a set of social values must be respected and prioritized:

I.1 - Education:

The act of educating goes far beyond the simple transmission of knowledge. It involves the complete formation of the individual, encompassing their intellectual, emotional, and moral development. Education aims to shape not only what we know but also who we are as human beings, cultivating our critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving ability, and understanding of the world around us.

I.2 - Culture:

The formation of the individual reaches its fullness when acquired knowledge is put at the service of cultural development. It is not just about accumulating facts, but integrating them into a broader context, connecting them to wider ideas, using them to enrich the understanding of arts, history, philosophy, and society. Culture, in this sense, becomes the reflection of enlightened knowledge.

I.3 - Multiculturalism:

The university recognizes the inherent richness of cultural diversity. Beyond mere tolerance, it embraces other cultures with a depth of appreciation, recognizing that each culture

carries within it values, perspectives, and ideas worthy of exploration. Multiculturalism becomes a means to transcend cultural boundaries for mutual enrichment.

I.4 - Pluralism:

Pluralism means recognizing that human beings are diverse in their beliefs, opinions, inclinations, and mentalities. Each is a unique individual, bearing their own perspective on the world. The university, by valuing pluralism, fosters an environment where the free expression of ideas and the harmonious coexistence of diverse perspectives are encouraged.

I.5 - Work:

Work is not reduced to a simple economic obligation but holds undeniable social value. The university strives to create a climate where work is not only a source of livelihood but also a means of personal fulfillment. Valued work brings deeper meaning to the individual's life and contributes to building a balanced society.

I.6 - Technological Development:

The university commits to research oriented towards technological development, recognizing that innovation is a powerful driver of progress. However, it is not limited to pure research but is also concerned with the social and ethical implications of these advances. It aims to ensure that technological discoveries benefit society as a whole.

I.7 - Well-being:

Ensuring the well-being of society's members, on both moral and intellectual levels, is a fundamental mission of the university. This includes promoting mental health, resolving moral dilemmas, and encouraging critical reflection. The university seeks to provide an environment where individuals can not only survive but also thrive emotionally and intellectually.

II. Community Values

For the university community to be healthy and serene, and to flourish in a climate of well-being and respect, its members are required to observe another category of rules containing values common to the entire university family. In this framework, the charter of university

ethics and deontology has provided for most of these values, which can be summarized as follows:

II.1 - Loyalty:

Members of the university community demonstrate unwavering loyalty to their commitments to this community. This means they are completely faithful to their obligations and responsibilities towards the institution, striving to maintain the integrity and reputation of the university.

II.2 - Solidarity:

Solidarity manifests through a collective awareness of shared interests within the university community. This creates a moral obligation to support and assist other members of the community. Solidarity encourages an atmosphere of mutual aid, where everyone is ready to contribute to the well-being of their peers.

II.3 - Dialogue:

Members of the university community are called upon to exercise their spirit of solidarity daily by engaging in constructive dialogues. This includes open and respectful discussions, even when controversial or opposing positions are at stake. Dialogue fosters mutual understanding and intellectual progress.

II.4 - Commitment:

Commitment represents a proactive attitude where each individual, aware of their role within the community, renounces a passive stance to become an active actor and partner in building the future of the university community. It is a willingness to actively contribute to the improvement of the institution.

II.5 - Mutual Aid:

Mutual aid involves offering support and assistance to other members of the community to foster the collective achievement of community goals. This can take various forms, from academic help to moral support, thus helping to strengthen bonds within the university community.

II.6 - Collaboration:

University life fosters collaboration, which manifests through working together on projects and initiatives. Members of the community join forces to achieve shared goals, leveraging the varied skills and expertise present within the university. This collaboration strengthens the effectiveness and creativity of the academic community.

III-Professional Values

In addition to social and community values, there is another set of values aimed at preserving the originality of the university's mission and propelling it towards flourishing and development; we are talking about professional values which address us as members of the university:

III.1 - Competence:

At the heart of the academic endeavour lies competence, an attribute forged through in-depth knowledge and recognition of our ability to judge and decide in specific domains. Competence is the key that opens the door to academic excellence.

III.2 - Assiduity:

Being a student or staff member within the university requires assiduity. This means we must be present, engaged, and invested in our responsibilities. Assiduity is the guarantee of our dedication to our academic mission.

III.3 - Scientific and Academic Integrity:

Integrity is the moral compass that guides our actions in the fields of teaching, research, and creation. It ensures that our work is conducted with honesty and respect for the fundamental values related to scientific integrity.

III.4 - Intellectual Property:

Intellectual property is a crucial principle for protecting the authenticity and originality of our work. This includes combating plagiarism, data falsification, and any form of intellectual fraud.

III.5 - Probity:

In our interactions and actions, we must act with honesty, fairness, and integrity. Probity is the commitment to ethics and morality in our academic work.

III.6 - Transparency:

Transparency is essential for maintaining trust within our community. This means that information is accessible to all, procedures are clear, and we act in an open and responsible manner.

III.7 - Continuity:

When we pass the torch to other generations, we must ensure that all necessary resources are transmitted. Continuity guarantees that our academic heritage endures.

III.8 - Efficiency:

Efficiency means that we must achieve optimal output while minimizing the use of resources. It is a call for judicious management of our means.

III.9 - Diligence:

We must carry out our work with diligence, meaning we must be attentive, meticulous, and diligent in everything we undertake.

10 - Compliance:

As members of the academic community, we must ensure that our actions comply with applicable laws, regulations, policies, and procedures.

III.11 - Selflessness:

Selflessness urges us to detach from any personal interest in the performance of our duties. This ensures that our work is focused on the common good.

III.12 - Confidentiality:

Maintaining a high level of confidentiality is essential to protect the integrity and security of our information systems, including the personal records of students, employees, and teaching staff.

III.13 - Accountability:

Accountability means that we are responsible for our actions, both materially and ethically. It is the assurance that our choices have consequences.

III.14 - Freedom of Teaching and Research:

Academic freedom is at the heart of our mission. It allows us to seek the truth independently, without fear of external interference. It is the foundation of our commitment to academic excellence.