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ABSRACT

This chapter discusses university best practices that both students and professors should follow to ensure a successful educational process.

It focuses on promoting values such as respect, integrity, social responsibility, and innovation to create an ideal and effective academic environment.

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CHAPTER 07 : UNIVERSITY BEST PRACTICES

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Within the academic microcosm, professors and students position themselves as the key actors in an educational code, guided by well-established practices. These practices, far from being mere formalities, represent the beacons that guide the intellectual and professional journey of each protagonist. They form an invisible yet robust canvas upon which cognitive development and academic success are drawn.

On the professor's side, their role goes far beyond the simple transmission of knowledge. The best practices that guide them are keys to unlocking the doors of understanding for their students. Attentive listening, pedagogical clarity, and passionate commitment are not secondary skills but essential tools. They create an environment conducive to learning, where the transmission of knowledge is complemented by the creation of a stimulating and participatory atmosphere.

On the student's side, the path is that of an explorer thirsty for knowledge. Best practices become the compasses guiding their intellectual discoveries. Discipline, active engagement, and boundless curiosity are levers that allow them to navigate confidently through the intricacies of the academic program. These practices translate into concrete involvement, thus forming the basis of balanced student success.

Together, professors and students develop an educational score where exemplary practices combine to create fruitful synergy. It is a partnership where academic excellence becomes a shared goal, a common destination in the educational journey. These practices, although invisible in their daily execution, are the gears that propel the entire educational system towards peaks of intellectual fulfilment.

I-Best Practices for Students

Academic fulfilment rests on fundamental pillars, among which student best practices emerge as essential beacons. In the following lines, we will explore in depth three major axes that define these practices, highlighting their crucial role in building a rewarding educational and socially responsible experience.

I.1– Promoting Respect on Campus

At the heart of the university experience lies the imperative to promote a respectful environment. The student, as an integral member of the university family, is assigned the responsibility of embodying the general values of respect and the exclusion of all forms of verbal and physical violence. This commitment goes beyond mere words; it is a moral obligation to create an atmosphere conducive to constructive exchange and mutual learning.

The obligation to respect the entire university family represents a cornerstone. This maximal commitment implies not only respect towards professors but also towards peers and administrative staff. This approach extends to the rigorous implementation of all the rights and duties that stem from belonging to the university community. By fostering a culture of respect, the student contributes to collective fulfilment, thus creating an environment conducive to intellectual emulation.

I.1 - Scientific and Organizational Contribution:

The student, as a dynamic actor in the academic sphere, must actively participate in the scientific and organizational life of their institution. Encouraging students to take part in events and forums represents a virtuous practice. This goes beyond mere physical presence; it involves immersing oneself in the richness of intellectual debates and activities organized within the university community.

This scientific and organizational contribution constitutes an essential lever for the student's personal development. By investing in academic initiatives, they refine their understanding of contemporary issues and develop organizational skills crucial for their future career. This practice, rooted in a desire for collective enrichment, contributes to the intellectual vitality of the institution.

I.3- Social Responsibility

The student's social responsibility transcends the boundaries of the lecture hall. Interacting and participating in what happens in their university environment represents a fundamental aspect of their social engagement. This goes beyond the limits of the academic curriculum to encompass an active awareness of social, cultural, and environmental issues.

This social responsibility manifests itself through proactive participation in community events, awareness of local and global issues, and involvement in social initiatives. By embodying this practice, the student becomes an agent of change, contributing to the creation of a socially responsible university community.

Student best practices, outlined through the promotion of respect, scientific and organizational contribution, and social responsibility, are the pillars of a holistic university experience. These practices, far from being formal obligations, are the levers that propel the student towards academic excellence and social responsibility, thus forming the foundation of a comprehensive education.

II-Best Practices for Professors:

Within the academic ecosystem, the professor stands as the guardian of the ethical, deontological, and intellectual values that fuel the edifice of knowledge. The best practices that guide their commitment materialize into a series of fundamental principles, reflecting the very essence of their educational mission. It should be noted that most of these practices are already set out in the University Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct as obligations incumbent upon professors.

II.1- Implement Integrity, Sincerity, and Fairness

The professor, as a primary vector of the scientific spirit, assumes the responsibility of instilling these values in academic circles. Working to propagate the spirit of responsibility, repelling all forms of material and moral corruption, and deepening the foundations of fairness and impartiality on campus become moral imperatives. These practices establish a solid ethical foundation, guaranteeing an educational environment imbued with integrity.

II.2- Academic Freedom

Academic freedom emerges as the essential pillar of development and intellectual creativity. Teaching, speaking, and publishing while respecting the norms and rules of scientific research becomes the very essence of this practice. It ensures the free circulation of ideas and fosters dynamic intellectual exchange within the academic community.

II.3- Fight against Scientific Plagiarism

The generalization of patents and publication rights constitutes a bulwark against plagiarism. The precision and clarity of the source of a citation become unavoidable imperatives in preserving academic integrity. This practice aims to erect insurmountable boundaries against intellectual falsification.

II.4- The Sacred Character of the University Campus

The campus, as a sanctuary of knowledge, must not be tainted by any political activity. The professor, as an intellectual guide, works to maintain the neutrality of the campus, thus preserving its sacred character dedicated to research, learning, and academic fulfilment.

II.5- Cultivate Creativity and Innovation

The professor, as an architect of learning, assumes the responsibility of cultivating critical thinking and constructive discussion in the student. Encouraging innovation in learning methods and strengthening the student's confidence in their creative abilities become essential practices. This is how the professor plays a key role in forming independent and innovative thinking.

II.6- National Identity

Adherence to the values and etiquette of society, as well as the preservation of national identity, impose themselves as unavoidable precepts. The professor, as a model of influence, embodies these values, thus contributing to social cohesion and the preservation of cultural heritage.

II.7- Encourage a Spirit of Communication

The professor acts as a catalyst for communication within the academic community and beyond. Strengthening cooperation and teamwork, both within the university and with external institutions, becomes an essential practice. This openness fosters a fruitful exchange of ideas and knowledge, thereby strengthening the intellectual fabric of the academic community.

II.8- Social Responsibility

The professor, as an influential model, assumes a major social responsibility. Their role goes beyond the transmission of knowledge, extending to the positive influence of the students'

personalities. This social responsibility translates into active participation in the advancement of the university and society. The professor thus becomes an agent of change, contributing to the building of an educated and socially conscious community.

In conclusion, these best practices define the profile of the professor as a guardian of ethical and intellectual values within the academic institution. They transcend the simple act of teaching to shape a distinguished academic ethic, where integrity, academic freedom, the fight against plagiarism, political neutrality, creativity, national identity, communication, and social responsibility combine to create an exemplary educational environment.