

Chiba University Code of Conduct for Researchers

Adopted October 19, 2006

Revised March 21, 2013

Chiba University has established the Code of Conduct for Researchers as a set of ethical standards that all researchers shall follow.

This Code, set out exclusively for researchers, has been made in keeping with the principles of the Chiba University Code of Conduct (enacted on October 11, 2005), and in conformity to the Code of Conduct for Scientists adopted by the Science Council of Japan on January 25, 2013.

A “researcher” in this Code means a researcher and/or a specialist engaged in activities to create new insights or to utilize scientific knowledge in all academic fields, ranging from the humanities and social sciences to the natural sciences.

I. Responsibilities of Researchers

(Basic Responsibilities of Researchers)

1. Researchers shall recognize that they are responsible for assuring the quality of the specialized knowledge and skills that they themselves create, and for using their expert knowledge, skills and experience to contribute to the health and welfare of humankind, the safety and security of society and the sustainability of the global environment.

(Attitude of Researchers)

2. Researchers shall always make judgments and act with honesty and integrity, endeavoring to maintain and improve their own expertise, abilities and skills, and shall make the utmost effort to scientifically and objectively demonstrate the accuracy and validity of the knowledge they create through scientific research.

(Researchers in Society)

3. Researchers shall recognize that scientific autonomy is upheld by public trust and the mandate of the people, understand the relationships between science, technology, society, and the natural environment from a wide-ranging perspective, and act in an appropriate manner.

(Research that Responds to Social Expectations)

4. Researchers shall recognize that they are responsible for answering to the expectations of society to investigate into truths and to achieve various issues. When

using research funds that are to be provided for establishing the research environment and for conducting research, researchers shall always recognize that such broad social expectations exist.

(Accountability and Public Disclosure)

5. Researchers shall strive to disclose and actively explain the roles and significance of their own research, evaluate the possible effects of their research on people, society and the environment as well as the changes that their research might engender, neutrally and objectively disclose the results of this evaluation, and establish a constructive dialogue with society.

(Dual Use of Scientific Research Outcomes)

6. Researchers shall recognize that there exist possibilities that their research results, contrary to their own intentions, may be used for subversive purposes, and shall select appropriate and generally accepted means and methods to conduct their research and publicizing the results.

II. Research Integrity

(Research Activities)

7. Researchers shall act with integrity according to the spirit of this Code of Conduct in drafting, planning, applying for, implementing, and reporting their own research. By reporting their research results through such means as papers, researchers shall take responsibility as well as obtaining recognition for their achievements in accordance with the role that they played. Researchers shall ensure that research and survey data are recorded, stored and rigorously handled, and not only refrain themselves from any misconduct such as fabrication, falsification or plagiarism, but also refrain from aiding or abetting such misconduct.

(Establishing Professional Research Environments and Thorough Educational Enlightenment)

8. Researchers shall recognize that establishing and maintaining fair research environments where responsible research can be conducted is one of their important duties, and shall work continuously to improve the quality of research environments in the scientific community and their own institutions, and toward educational enlightenment preventing misconduct. Moreover, they shall also seek the understanding and cooperation of the public in achieving these goals.

(Consideration for Research Subjects)

9. Researchers shall respect the dignity and rights of individuals who cooperate in their research, and shall safeguard and give proper consideration to their welfare. They

shall also treat animals and other research subjects with all due care and respect.

(Relations with Other Researchers)

10. Researchers shall constructively criticize the results of other researchers' research, humbly listen to the criticism of others, and exchange opinions with an attitude of sincerity. Moreover, they shall properly give credit to other researchers' intellectual findings and achievements, as well as respecting the honor and intellectual property rights of others. They shall also participate actively in mutual assessment among researchers in the research community, particularly in their field of expertise.

III. Science in Society

(Dialogue with Society)

11. Researchers shall participate actively in dialogue and exchange with citizens, for better mutual understanding between society and the research community. As well, in order to resolve various issues and realize welfare in society, they shall also work to provide scientific advice effective for policy making to persons involved in the planning and determination of policies. On such occasions, researchers shall aim to give advice based on consensus among researchers, and, when differences of opinion exist, shall offer a coherent explanation.

(Scientific Advice)

12. Researchers shall conduct research activities with the objective of contributing to public welfare, and offer impartial advice based on objective and scientific evidence. At that time, they shall be aware of the gravity of the impact and of their responsibility that their statements may make on public opinion building and policy making, and shall not abuse their authority. As well, researchers shall make maximum efforts to ensure quality in their scientific advice, and at the same time clearly explain the uncertainty associated with scientific knowledge as well as the diversity of opinions.

(Scientific Advice to Policy Planners and Decision Makers)

13. When researchers offer scientific advice to persons who plan or decide government policies, they shall recognize that while scientific knowledge is something to be duly respected in the process of policy formation, it is not the sole factor on which policy decisions are made. In the event that a policy decision is made that differs from the advice given by the research community, researchers shall request, as necessary, accountability to society from the policy planner and/or decision maker.

IV. Legal Compliance

(Compliance with Laws and Regulations)

14. Scientists shall observe all laws, regulations, and relevant rules when conducting research and making use of research funds.

(Eliminating Discrimination)

15. Researchers shall treat individuals fairly on a scientific basis and respect individual's freedom and character regardless of their race, gender, social status, ideology and beliefs, or religion.

(Avoiding Conflicts of Interest)

16. In their research, reviews, evaluations, judgments, scientific advice and other scientific activities, researchers shall pay careful attention to the conflicts of interest between individuals and organizations, or between different organizations, and shall properly address problems paying all due attention to the public interest.