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The success of an Institution's Mission and vision is driven by value-based ethical behavior of its committed faculty members, officers, staff and students. Thus, an institute should thrive for imbibing core value and ethical behavior into the daily interactions of stakeholder groups. These stakeholders of an institution; the faculty, students, administrators or others, should be guided by the following core values:

#### CORE VALUES OF THE INSTITUTION:

- 1. **Integrity**: Adhering to a conduct of duties in righteous manner and in accordance with the principles of honesty, trust, transparency and fairness.
- 2. **Trusteeship**: Operating in an efficient, ethical and true manner while ensuring group participation and a system of check and balances within an institution.
- 3. **Harmony**: Balancing the diversity and difference through a culture of tolerance, discussion and forgiveness among stakeholders.
- 4. **Accountability**: Enabling the environment of openness and trust to accommodate mistake and to encourage individual in taking the responsibility of one' action.
- 5. **Inclusiveness**: Adopting standards, policies and procedure to promote and ensure equal opportunity, without any discrimination against an individual or a group, for education, employment, promotion and other activities in an institution.
- 6. **Commitment**: Dedicating to the vision and mission of the institution while cultivating one's knowledge, skill and attitudes to achieve excellence in due time and regulatory boundaries.
- 7. **Respectfulness**: Creating an environment of mutual respect, trustworthy and quality interaction as well as fair participation by functionaries and beneficiaries of the institution.
- 8. **Belongingness**: fostering a shared vision of institute to make everyone feel secure, supported, accepted and included.
- 9. **Sustainability**: Ensuring optimal resource utilization-economic, environmental and Social-to achieve long lasting and safe future

The purpose of education in general and higher education in particular is to facilitate actualization of human potential by making its stakeholders, particularly higher educational administrators, teachers, and learners conscious about human values and professional ethics. The principal values are discussed in brief as follows:

# **HUMAN VALUES**

- **Love & Compassion**: Love is the all-pervading life energy. It finds its manifestation in sincere care for others, kindness, empathy and compassion and is unconditional. True love leads to compassion.
- **Peace**: The scope of peace includes peace at the individual level and at the world level. For world peace, peace at the level of individual, society and nations is imperative.
- **Truth**: In professional life, the simplest manifestation of truth is in sincerity that can be seen in terms of commitment to work.
- Non-Violence: Ahimsa means non-killing. Non-violence is a result of restraint from consciously doing any harm through one's thoughts, speech or action to any entity, living or non-living.
- Righteousness: Righteousness is the backbone of core human values and also of human existence. It involves conduct of life and action by practicing propriety and decorum at every stage. It covers ethical guidelines, ethical behavior and moral righteousness.
- **Renunciation or Sacrifice**: Renunciation has two preconditions: care as well as love for all living beings attended by absence of selfishness. Renunciation begins when selfishness ends.
- **Service**: When love and compassion for others and willingness to sacrifice for others out of love take the form of action, it becomes service. Service is possible only when one loves others as one's own, not as other.

Human values are mankind's deepest moral aspirations and form the foundation of human culture and lives as individuals and as societies. The need is to inculcate and practice them consciously to be a good human so that s/he can realize his/her potentials as a human being.

Values are to be learned through practices. Hence, the administrators and teachers in higher education need to bear in mind that they are being watched and observed by their peers and learners in general and they (peers/learners) are learning values by observing them (seniors and peer learners). So the ambiance in and around higher educational institutions should be such as would be conducive to value education and bring qualitative change in life and work at home and workplace with professional ethics. Human values and professional ethics, thus, are indispensable steps in the odyssey of transformational learning and life of happiness and greatness.

#### **PROFESSIONAL ETHICS**

Ethics has been described as standards of conduct that indicate how one should behave based on moral duties and virtues arising from principles about right and wrong. Professional ethics concerned with the concept and framework of moral right or wrong as applied to a professional organization, execution policies and behaviors. Though education in its truest sense is not a professional, for practical purpose here we would address it to be a profession so that an institutional framework of ethics in higher education may be propounded.

Some guidelines based on surveys in Indian organizations suggest that: administration must be transparent; decision must be taken in public interest; administrators should leave behind their caste, community, and language in their own homes; corruption must be punished; discriminatory privileges should not be given to officials; persons at all levels must be encouraged to think and to give their advice freely, and; entire administration must be geared to tackle by itself or through other organizations the menace - poverty. Various studies in Indian context suggest that organizations can encourage moral behavior by: communicating expectations that employees will behave ethically and define what that means; hiring at the top who set good examples; rewarding ethical behaviors and punishing unethical behaviors; teaching employee basic tools of ethical decision making, and; encouraging discussion of ethical issues.

#### CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STAKEHOLDERS

As it is said, excellence is not an accident. It requires years of practice driven and motivated by a perfect behavior of the stakeholders. To achieve this, institution operates on the following Code of Conduct for various stakeholders:

#### **Institutional Level Academic Administration**

It would include Principal, Vice-Principal, Deans of Various Faculty, Heads of Departments, Academic Statutory Bodies, etc.

# The authority would

- 1. Be responsible, as the principal academic and administrative officer of the institution, to see that the provisions of Acts/Statutes/Ordinances and Regulations of the institution are duly observed and is carried out in strict adherence thereto.
- 2. Comply with laws, rules, and regulations of the government applicable to the institution.
- 3. Provide inspirational and motivational value-based academic and executive leadership to the institution through policy formation, operational management, optimization of human resources and concern for environment and sustainability.
- 4. Conduct with accountability, transparency, fairness, honesty, highest degree of ethics and decision making that is in the best interest of the institution.
- 5. Act as an agent of social change for national development and, therefore, strive for creating an environment conducive for teaching, learning, research and for development of the potential of the institution to the maximum extent.
- 6. Follow the objectives and policies of institution and contribute constructively to their on-going evaluation and reformulation.
- 7. Maintain the confidentiality of the records and other sensitive matters.
- 8. Endeavour to promote a work culture and ethics that brings about quality, professionalism, satisfaction and service to the nation and society.
- 9. Refrain from any misappropriation of financial and other resources.

10. Refuse to accept any gift, favor, service, or other items from any person, group, private business, or public agency which may affect the impartial performance of his/her duties.

### **Governing Body**

The function of the governing body is to ensure that the organization fulfils its overall purpose, achieves its intended outcomes and operates in an efficient, effective and ethical manner.

#### The members would

- 1. Work in the best interest of the institution.
- 2. Work co-operatively with fellow members in carrying out their responsibilities.
- 3. Act honestly and in good faith at all times in achieving institute's intended outcomes.
- 4. Maintain the confidentiality of information.

# **Administrative / Support Staff**

Administrative/ Support staff would

- 1. Carry out official decisions and policies faithfully and impartially, seeking to attain the highest possible standards of performances.
- 2. Encourage the staff to maximize their efficiency.
- 3. Create conditions that inspire teamwork.
- 4. Act timely to readdress the genuine grievances.
- 5. Maintain the confidentiality of the records and other sensitive matters.
- 6. Co-operate and liaison with colleagues, as appropriate, to ensure students receive a coherent and comprehensive educational service.
- 7. Care for the institute's property.
- 8. Facilitating congenial environment.
- 9. Refrain from any form of discrimination.
- 10. Not accept bribes or indulge in any corrupt practices.
- 11. Make every effort to complete the assigned work in a time-bound manner.

#### **Teachers**

Teaching is a very noble profession. A teacher has a very crucial role in shaping the character, personality and career of the students.

#### The Teachers would

- 1. Act as a role model for students by displaying good conduct, set a standard of dress, speech and behavior worthy of example to the students.
- 2. Act as friend, philosopher and guide of students.
- 3. Help students in identifying their potential and support through counseling and mentoring.
- 4. Create a conducive environment for teaching—learning process and strive for innovative practices and knowledge creation.
- 5. Observe punctuality in teaching and other duties. VG Cater oy,
- 6. Exhibit decent behavior with all.
- 7. Refrain from harassment of student in any form.
- 8. Actively participate in institutional development.
- 9. Refrain from any type of discrimination
- 10. Inculcate human values, scientific outlook and concern for the environment among students and others.
- 11. Develop an understanding of our heritage.
- 12. Encourage students to actively participate in scheme/ activities of national priorities.
- 13. Cooperate with the institution authorities for betterment of the institution.
- 14. Actively work for national integration and communal harmony.
- 15. Be sensitive to societal needs and development.
- 16. Abide by Act, Statutes, Ordinances, rules, policies, procedures of the institution and respect its ideals, vision, mission, cultural practices and the traditions.

#### **Students**

Students would make the best use of the golden part of their lives in institution by devoting their energy for learning and developing a wholesome personality.

Students would

- 1. Abide by Act, Statutes, Ordinances, rules, policies, procedures of the institution and respect its ideals, vision, mission, cultural practices and the traditions.
- 2. Stay in an academic institution with the joyful learning experience.
- 3. Remain punctual, disciplined and regular in attending classes.
- 4. Observe modesty in their overall appearance and behavior.
- 5. Behave with dignity and courtesy with teachers, staff and fellow students.
- 6. Act as a role model for the junior students by attaining the highest level of values and morality.
- 7. Maintain harmony among students belonging to different socio-economic status, community, caste, religion or region.
- 8. Contribute towards cleanliness of the campus and surroundings.
- 9. Respect and care for the institutional properties.
- 10. Observe proper behavior while on outside activities (educational tour/visit or excursion).
- 11. Be honest in providing only truthful information on all documents.
- 12. Maintain the highest standards of academic integrity while presenting own academic work.
- 13. Help teachers in maintaining the learning environment conducive for all students.
- 14. Strive to keep campus ragging free.
- 15. Be sensitive to gender issues.
- 16. Be sensitive to societal needs and development.
- 17. Maintain good health and refrain from any kind of intoxicants.