Concepts and Conditions for Ethics and Responsibility

Becoming an academic researcher → Becoming an ethically and societally responsible researcher

Academic Integrity

Aim: professional self-understanding as an academic in-/outside university

- Tacit and practical knowledge of enacting values of good scientific practice in one's field
- Academic writing, reading and citing
- Treat others and their ideas with respect
- Contribute to a constructive teaching and learning culture

Research Integrity

Aim: professional and independent conduct of research

- Truthful and trustworthy practicing / documenting of research
- Honest and transparent communication of research (e.g., presenting, publishing)
- Respectful supervising, training, reviewing and collaborating

Overlapping values include:
transparency, honesty, reliability, respect, fairness, accountability, courage

Research Ethics

Aim: preventing harm and promoting good by ethical design of research

- "Do no harm"
- Prevent harm to research participants (humans and animals)
- Prevent harm to the environment
- Prevent harm to society
- Balance benefit over harm
- Promote "doing good"

Societal Responsibility

Aim: socially robust research and technologies

- Anticipate and reflect on societal implications (e.g., social, environmental and health risks)
- Inter- and transdisciplinarity to understand societal risks / benefits and to adapt research accordingly
- Consider societal perspectives and stakeholder needs

Overlapping issues include:
safety, risks, dual use, justice, security, human flourishing

Specific capacity-building for Ethics and Responsibility:

- Service Unit of Responsible Research Practices
- Research Ethics Committee (REC)
- Mentors of Responsible Research Practices
- Teaching Responsible Research Practices

Senior Advisor for Research Ethics and Research Integrity

Ethics and Responsibility within general university governance:

- Study plans and curricula
- Codes of conduct
- Thesis contracts and supervision
- Evaluation and feedback
- Strategy documents

National Government and Supranational Governance:
- Funding, qualification structures, etc.

Commercial Tech Development:
- Industry collaborations, start-ups, entrepreneurial university, etc.

International Research Fields:
- Associations, journals, conferences, controversies, etc.

The Science of Responsible Research Practices:
- Research Ethics and Integrity, Science and Technology Studies, Technology Assessment, Law, etc.

Authors: Lisa Sigl, Susanne Oechsner, Marjo Rauhala