

#### BHARATH INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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#### **BSS601– Value Education & Professional Ethics**

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## PROFESSIONAL ETHICS



A **profession** is a vocation founded upon specialized high educational training, the purpose of which is to supply objective counsel and service to others, for a direct and definite compensation.

Professional ethics encompass the personal and corporate standards of behaviour expected of professionals.

The Centre for Professional ethics was established at Case Western Reserve University, Canada.





### COMPONENTS/QUALITIES

- Honesty
- Integrity
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Confidentiality
- Objectivity
- Respectfulness
- Obedience to the Law
- Obedience to the Law

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eth·ics (eth/iks)
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### HONESTY

**Honesty** refers to a facet of moral character and denotes positive, virtuous attributes such as integrity, truthfulness, and straightforwardness along with the absence of lying, cheating, or theft.

"Honesty is the best policy. If I lose mine honor, I lose myself."

-William Shakespeare



- Integrity is a concept of consistency of actions, values, methods, measures, principles, expectations, and outcomes.
- Integrity can be regarded as the opposite of hypocrisy, that it regards internal consistency as a virtue.
- The word "integrity" derived from the Latin adjective integer that means "wholeness".

"Integrity without knowledge is weak and useless, and knowledge without integrity is dangerous and dreadful."

- Samuel Johnson





- Transparency is a general quality.
- It is implemented by a set of policies, practices and procedures.
- It allow citizens to have accessibility, usability, utility, understandability, informativeness and auditability of information and process held by centers of authority (society or organizations).

"A lack of transparency results in distrust and a deep sense of insecurity."

-Dalai Lama



- Accountability soften used synonymously with such concepts as answerability, blameworthiness, liability, and other terms associated with the expectation of accountgiving.
- It is the acknowledgment and assumption of responsibility for actions, products, decisions, and policies and be answerable for resulting consequences.
- It cannot exist without proper accounting practices.



#### Fields:

- Political accountability
- Ethical accountability
- Accountability in administration & education.
- Individual accountability
- Constituency relations
- Public/private overlap

"When a man points a finger at someone else, he should remember that four of his fingers are pointing at himself." — Louis Nizer



- Confidentiality is an ethical principle of discretion associated with the professions, such as medicine, law, psychotherapy.
- In law, and mediation, there exist communications between the client and the professional, which are "privileged" communications.
- In business, the confidentiality of information, a mainstream adaptation of the "need to know"
- In military, it is basic to the security of corporate information.



#### Confidentiality regarding:

- 1. Whose interests
- Which interests

#### Confidential information of:

- 1. Worker
- 2. Employer
- ColleagueCompetitor
- 4

"In intelligence work, there are limits to the amount of information one can share. Confidentiality is essential."

-Gijs de Vries





- Objectivity is a principle of journalistic professionalism.
- In journalism, objectivity may synonymous with neutrality.
- Objectivity in journalism enables highly accelerated news reporting and delivery, which sometimes is at tension with standards of objectivity.

"The belief in objectivity is a faith in 'facts,' a distrust in 'values,' and a commitment to their segregation."

-Michael Schudson



- **Respect** gives a positive feeling of esteem for a person and conduct representative of that esteem.
- Respect can be a specific feeling of regard for the actual qualities of the one respected.
- Rude conduct is usually considered to indicate a lack of respect, disrespect, whereas actions that honor somebody or something indicate respect.
- The opposite of *respect* is contempt.

"I speak to everyone in the same way, whether he is the garbage man or the president of the university."

-Albert Einstein



#### Language:

- Respect is shown in many languages such as:
  - An honorific is a word or expression.
- An anti-honorific forms.
  - A Style is a legal, official, or recognized.

#### Hand gesture:

- When a person's foot accidentally touches a book or any written material (manifestation of the goddess of knowledge Saraswati)
- This also counts for money, which is considered as a manifestation of the goddess of wealth Lakshmi.



- Law is the set of enforced rules under which a society is governed.
- Law is one of the most basic social institutions-and one of the most necessary.
- The law thus establishes the rules that define a person's rights and obligations. The law also sets penalties for people who violate these rules.
- In fact, laws frequently are changed to reflect changes in a society's needs and attitudes.
- Law is a system of rules and guidelines which are enforced through social institutions to govern behavior.



- The formation of laws themselves may be influenced by a constitution (written or unwritten)
- The law shapes politics, economics and society in countless ways and serves as a social mediator of relations between people.

"An unjust law is itself a species of violence. Arrest for its breach is more so."

-Mahatma Gandhi

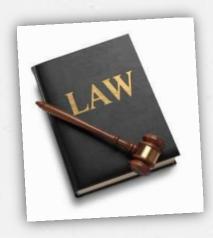


#### Legal subjects

- International law
- Constitutional and administrative law
  - Criminal law
  - Contract law
  - Tort law
  - Property law
  - Equity and trusts

#### Legalsystems

- Civil law
- Common law and equity
- Religious law





- The codes of ethics are guidelines for specific group of professionals to help them perform their roles, to know how to conduct themselves, and to know how to resolve various ethical issues.
- The codes of ethics help the professionals to apply moral and ethical principles to the specific situations encountered in professional practice.
- These codes convey the rights, duties, and obligations of the members of the profession.



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# POSITIVE ROLES OF CODES CODES OF ETHICS

- Inspiration
- Guidance
- Support for responsible conduct
- Deterring and disciplining unethical professional conduct
- Education and promoting of mutual understanding
- Contributing to a positive public image of the profession
- Protecting the status quo and suppressing dissent within the profession
- Promoting business interests through restraint of trade



- Ethical codes provide a positive inspiration for the professionals to exercise their obligations effectively.
- These codes inspire the engineers to apply moral principles under the various conflicting situations.

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### SUPPORT

- The ethical codes offer positive and potential support to engineers to perform their duties in ethical manner.
- At times, the codes can serve as legal support for those engineers who are tangled in professional obligations and conflicts.





- The ethical codes can be use for deterring and disciplini unethical professional conduct.
- These codes are also considered as the formal basis for investigating unethical conduct



# CONTRIBUTING TO THE PROFESSION'S PUBLIC IMAGE

- The ethical codes can confer a positive image to the public of an ethically committed profession.
- The codes enable the engineers to serve the public more effectively





- The codes institute ethical conventions. These ethical conventions can promote a minimum, acceptable level of ethical conduct.
- The codes can also suppress the dispute within the profession.







# PROMOTING BUSINESS IN ESSINESS INTERESTS

- The codes of ethics promote business interests through restraint of trade.
- They help in facilitating morally feasible business dealings to the professionals.



# THANK YOU