

# Professional Ethics and Assessing Ethics

## Professional Ethics

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### **Books and articles**

Bryant, J.A., Baggott La Velle, L.M., and Searle J.F. (eds.) (2002) *Bioethics for Scientists*. John Wiley and Sons: Chichester, UK; ISBN 0 471 49532 8. *Suggested by Professor John Bryant, University of Exeter.*

Bulge,r R.E., Heitman, E. and Reiser, S.J. (eds.) (2002) *The Ethical Dimensions of the Biological and Health Sciences 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.

Donaldson, L. and Downie, R. (2007) Attitudes to the Uses of Animals in Higher Education: Has Anything Changed? *Bioscience Education E-journal*, **10-6**, available at [www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol10/beej-10-6.aspx](http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol10/beej-10-6.aspx)

Downie, R. and Clarkeburn, H. (2005) Approaches to the Teaching of Bioethics and Professional Ethics in Undergraduate Courses. *Bioscience Education E-journal*, **5-2**, available at [www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol5/Beej-5-2.aspx](http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol5/Beej-5-2.aspx)

Shamoo, A. and Resnik, D. (2003) *Responsible Conduct of Research*. OUP: New York and Oxford; ISBN 0 19 514846 0. *Suggested by Professor John Bryant, University of Exeter.*

### **Websites and online resources**

#### **Bad Science**

Bad Science brings together all of Ben Goldacre's columns which consider a variety of aspects of being a scientist and scientific conduct, including public communication, use of statistics and reporting results. [www.badscience.net/](http://www.badscience.net/)

#### **BEEP (Bioethics Education Project)**

Intended mainly for A-level students there are useful sections and resources focussing on How Science Works, (which considers, for example, the social pressures on scientists) and assessment of ethics. [www.beep.ac.uk](http://www.beep.ac.uk)

#### **Inside the ethics committee**

Broadcast on Radio 4, this programme focuses on medical ethics within the format of an expert panel discussing and coming to a decision on a real life case, enabling you to listen in to people thinking through ethical dilemmas. You can listen again to episodes going back to 2005. [www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/science/ethicscommittee.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/science/ethicscommittee.shtml)

#### **Moral reasoning in scientific research**

Developed by the Poynter Centre at Indiana University this resource considers various scenarios within the scientific research environment, including the 'ownership' of research and reporting of data. Free to download in pdf format <http://poynter.indiana.edu/mr/mr-main.shtml>

#### **Scientists for Global Responsibility (SGR)**

SGR "promotes ethical science, design and technology, based on the principles of openness, accountability, peace, social justice, and environmental sustainability" their website contains a variety of resources. [www.sgr.org.uk/](http://www.sgr.org.uk/)

## Ethical codes and research integrity

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### **DIUS - A Universal Ethical Code for Scientists**

The code aims to: foster ethical research; encourage active reflection among scientists on the wider implications and impacts of their work, and; support constructive communication between scientists and the public on complex and challenging issues.

[www.dius.gov.uk/policy/science\\_society/code.html](http://www.dius.gov.uk/policy/science_society/code.html)

### **Institute of Biology - Code of Conduct and Guide on Ethical Practice**

General guidance on professional ethics.

[www.iob.org/userfiles/file/847.pdf](http://www.iob.org/userfiles/file/847.pdf)

### **HERO – Good research practice, ethics and integrity**

A section of the HERO website covering various aspects of ethics and professional conduct in science and research and brings together links to the good practice in research guides from the UK research funding councils.

[www.hero.ac.uk/uk/research/good\\_practice\\_for\\_new\\_research230.cfm](http://www.hero.ac.uk/uk/research/good_practice_for_new_research230.cfm)

### **Research Councils**

Research councils produce guidance on good research practice, ethical conduct of research, documenting and publishing research, see, for example the Medical Research Council and BBSRC

[www.mrc.ac.uk/PolicyGuidance/index.htm](http://www.mrc.ac.uk/PolicyGuidance/index.htm)

[www.bbsrc.ac.uk/publications/policy/good\\_scientific\\_practice.html](http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/publications/policy/good_scientific_practice.html)

### **UK Research Integrity Office (UKRIO)**

An independent body, hosted by Universities UK, which offers advice and guidance to universities and other research organisations, and also to individual researchers, on the conduct of research.

[www.ukrio.org/home/index.cfm](http://www.ukrio.org/home/index.cfm)

## Assessing Ethics

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Coleman, I.P.L., Kirk, P.R., Nurse, P.A., Thomas, R., Walker, P.A. and Warren, .P (2007) Stand in another's shoes. A 'Values and Rights' exercise to develop and assess students' ethical awareness. In *Proceedings of the Science Learning and Teaching Conference 2007*. Available at

[www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/events/sltc07/papers/w5coleman.pdf](http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/events/sltc07/papers/w5coleman.pdf)

Presentation available at

[www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/events/sltc07/presentations/w5coleman.pdf](http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/events/sltc07/presentations/w5coleman.pdf)

Griffin, D.K. (2007) Delivering a Bioethics module through online assessment and feedback: an electronic approach that is preferable to assessment of face-to-face discussion. Available at

[http://disc.brunel.ac.uk/HCI2007elearningworkshop/HCI\\_2007\\_Paper\\_Griffin1.doc](http://disc.brunel.ac.uk/HCI2007elearningworkshop/HCI_2007_Paper_Griffin1.doc)

Pearce, R.S. (2008) Assessing analysis and reasoning in Bioethics. *Bioscience Education*, **12**-c2, available at

[www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol12/beej-12-c2.aspx](http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol12/beej-12-c2.aspx)

Sanderson, C. (2007) Using debates to develop and assess critical reasoning in first year bioscience students. In *Proceedings of the Science Learning and Teaching Conference 2007*. Available at

[www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/events/sltc07/papers/o29sanderson.pdf](http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/events/sltc07/papers/o29sanderson.pdf)

Reports from previous Ethics events held by the Centre for Bioscience have reports and slides from a number of presentations looking at the assessment of ethics.

[www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/network/ethicsig.aspx](http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/network/ethicsig.aspx)