The Code of Ethics of an Academic Teacher

of Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin

**Preamble**

Maria Curie-Skłodowska University is a public institution of higher education guided by the pursuit of constant development, rising to challenges of the present time, and drawing on traditions and ethos of the University and achievements of the past generations of eminent UMCS scholars.

The mission of the University is to educate graduates highly valued on the market, by giving them knowledge and skills, and shaping their personal conduct. What is equally important, the role of the University is to constantly exceed the limits of cognition for the purpose of solving problems of the dynamically changing contemporary world.

The academic teachers of UMCS follow the fundamental rules of ethics, such as: respect for human dignity, truthfulness, integrity, and cherish academic values originating in tradition, such as: freedom of scientific research, freedom of expression, and respect for the university’s autonomy. Furthermore, they perform their academic duties diligently, respect the rights of all members of the academic community, and strive for maintaining good relations.

**Chapter I  
General Principles**

§ 1

The Code of Ethics of an Academic Teacher of Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, hereinafter referred to as the Code, defines the ethical values and the principles based on them that should be followed by academic teachers employed at UMCS.

§ 2

The UMCS academic teacher takes care of good name and positive image of the University and carries out its mission.

§ 3

The UMCS academic teacher is loyal to the University, in particular by adhering to work discipline, supporting the University’s authorities in their tasks and contributing to the University’s prestige.

§ 4

The UMCS academic teacher treats all members of the academic community with kindness and respect, is well-mannered, takes care of good interpersonal relations at work and strives to prevent the emergence of conflicts between colleagues.

§ 5

The UMCS academic teacher takes care of the property and public funds entrusted to him or her as a University employee and uses them only for work-related purposes.

**Chapter II**

**The UMCS Academic Teacher as a Researcher**

§ 6

In his or her research, the UMCS academic teacher is guided by the principle of scientific integrity. In particular, the academic teacher does not allow infringement of intellectual property rights, plagiarism, fabrication or forgery of scientific research results, unjustified quotation of other authors’ and own works, dishonesty in application for research funding, in conducting own research and reviewing research of other authors.

§ 7

Commencing research, the UMCS academic teacher bears in mind that it should be aimed at extending a body of knowledge. Research ought to be conducted diligently, with attention to detail and with utmost care in presentation of the results obtained. Funds raised for the research should be spent honestly, in compliance with law and with the binding public finance discipline.

§ 8

Complying with the applicable rules of determining the co-authorship of publications, the UMCS academic teacher does not allow the authorship of a scientific work to be transferred to another person, and does not accept any transferred authorship. It is advisable to specify the character and scope of the contribution of individual authors for each scientific publication. It is particularly unethical to claim co-authorship of scientific publications without genuine, innovative and substantial contribution to them.

§ 9

The UMCS academic teacher adheres to the applicable rules of ethics with respect to research on animals. If the object of research is natural environment or cultural achievements, the researcher strives to preserve them in an unchanged state.

§ 10

In the case of scientific research focused on people, the UMCS academic teacher makes sure that their dignity is respected and strives to protect mental and physical health of the examined people.

§ 11

Scientific research on people is always conducted on the basis of voluntary participation and with prior informed consent of the participants.

§ 12

While evaluating other authors’ scientific works, research projects, scientific achievements or applications for positions in scientific institutions, the UMCS academic teacher follows the principles of friendly criticism and best scientific practices, and avoids conflict of interest. The UMCS academic teacher undertakes scientific supervision, reviewing, preparation of opinions and expert evaluations in accordance with the teacher’s competence and experience, and only within his or her specialty. Using the academic teacher’s scientific authority for expressing opinions beyond the teacher’s competence is considered reprehensible.

§ 13

Opinions, reviews and expert evaluations issued by the UMCS academic teacher should be based solely on scientific data.

**Chapter III  
The UMCS Academic Teacher as a Lecturer and an Educator**

§ 14

The UMCS academic teacher disseminates reliable information about achievements in the branch of science represented by him or her.

§ 15

The UMCS academic teacher treats students and doctoral students with respect and kindness.

§ 16

The UMCS academic teacher inspires and fosters development of creativity in his or her colleagues, students and doctoral students, supports them with his or her knowledge and scientific experience, and respects the applicable rules of determining publication co-authorship.

§ 17

The UMCS academic teacher uses innovative teaching methods, aimed at active and creative participation of students and doctoral students in classes.

§ 18

The UMCS academic teacher provides students and doctoral students with information about the curriculum of classes conducted by him or her, rights and duties of the participants, credit requirements, examination dates and grading criteria applied by the teacher.

§ 19

The UMCS academic teacher recognizes different personalities of students and doctoral students, and thus evaluates them in accordance with the impartiality rule, irrespective of their sex, age, ethnicity and world view.

§ 20

The UMCS academic teacher imposes on students and doctoral students only such duties which are necessary in the teaching process and based on the study regulations.

§ 21

The UMCS academic teacher counteracts any symptoms of intellectual dishonesty among students and doctoral students, and shapes their attitude of scientific credibility.

§ 22

The UMCS academic teacher sets a good example for students and doctoral students regarding the art of scientific debate, respect for all parties to discussion, and polite expression of criticism.

§ 23

The UMCS academic teacher recognizes the right of students and doctoral students to evaluate his or her teaching work and attitude.

§ 24

When inviting students or doctoral students to take part in research, the UMCS academic teacher indicates their actual participation in documentation and publication of research results and respects their right to remuneration according to their contribution.

**Chapter IV  
Final Provisions**

§ 25

In matters not regulated by the Code*,* the UMCS academic teacher should follow the provisions of the Act of 20 July 2018 – Law on Higher Education, the UMCS Statute, regulations and decisions of the University bodies, instructions of the superiors, commonly recognized academic traditions and best practices.

§ 26

The Self-Government of UMCS Doctoral Students shall draw up the Code of Ethics of a Doctoral Student of Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin.