

Rector's Directive No. 3/2021 - SR

# Code of Ethics for Students of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava

Date: March 16, 2021

#### Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, Vazovova 5, Bratislava

In Bratislava on March 16, 2021 No. 3/2021 – SR

In accordance with Article 8 (3) of the Rules of Organization of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava in their valid wording and in harmony with Article 3 (1) (b) of Rector's Directive No. 4/2013 - SR "Rules for Issuing Internal Regulations of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava" of October 3, 2013, the Rector of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava

#### is issuing

the following Rector's Directive

# Code of Ethics for Students of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava

#### Article 1 Recitals

- 1. The Code of Ethics for Students of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava (hereinafter referred to as "Code of Ethics for STU Students") lays down ethical principles and standards of conduct for STU students (hereinafter referred to as "students"), taking into account the specific features of their position in accordance with the Slovak Constitution, Act No. 131/2002 Coll. on Higher Education, and on amendments and supplements to certain acts, as amended, the Statute of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava (hereinafter referred to as "STU"), and other legal regulations and STU internal regulations related to studies at STU.
- 2. The Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava is a modern university, the spirit of which is shaped jointly by its students and employees regardless of their nationality, race, gender, sexual orientation, age or religion, in the spirit of humanism, humanity, freedom and democracy, thus developing the research and educational message of the renowned Mining Academy in Banská Štiavnica and modern Humboldtian universities.
- 3. Being aware of their shared responsibility for the acquisition of knowledge, shaping their personality and education towards honesty and morality, as well as of the impact of scientific research and artistic activities on society, STU students studying at all its parts undertake to follow the principles of the Code of Ethics for STU Students which is based on the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity issued by the European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA) and codes of ethics for

students of other educational institutions.

### Article 2 Ethical principles of STU students

Students in particular:

- Fully respect the principles of humanism, humanity, freedom and democracy, and act in such a manner as to follow the principles of morality and ethics; Duly respect the safety, health and well-being of society, other students and other affected persons;
- Believe that educational activity is a means of acquiring knowledge, skills and competencies necessary for the further development of society and to shape their own personalities; Understand that university study is a challenging and creative educational process of equal parties which requires the mutual respect of teachers and students;
- 3. Are responsible for the learning process; Are actively involved in the educational process and help enhance its quality; Are responsible for achieving their own results in the educational process and for presenting such results; Cooperate with other students on increasing the quality of the educational process and, as far as possible, help other students improve their achievements in the educational process;
- 4. Respect the personal integrity of other students, co-creating a positive and creative atmosphere in the educational process and outside it; Help form good human relationships, not discriminating on the grounds of age, gender, sexual orientation, marital or family status, race, skin colour, disability, language, political or other ideas, affiliation to any national minority, religion or faith, labour union activities, national or social origin, property, lineage or other position;
- 5. Treat teachers and other students and affected persons with respect for people, freedom of thought and tolerance; Act openly, honestly and fairly and lead by example by their conduct; Do not humiliate, act immorally towards, or exert any pressure on others;
- 6. Strive for their personal growth with the aim of becoming an integral personality from both a professional and an ethical point of view; Do not commit fraud or misuse other students;
- 7. Reject any advantages which could result from any family or other relationship to an STU teacher or employee; Reject any forms of corruption;
- 8. Reject any expressions of pressure based on a professional or work position, any form of

discrimination or non-collegial expressions; Do not assume a false collegial attitude consisting of tolerating cases of violation of general ethical principles and rules of the Code of Ethics for ST Students;

- 9. Are aware of the possibility to elect and run for self-governance bodies of STU and its Faculties; Deal with any problems primarily with their legally elected representatives in academic self-governing bodies;
- 10. Perform any extra-curricular activities outside their regular study obligations in such way that they do not jeopardize and are not in conflict with the scope and quality of their study achievements at STU;
- 11. Respect academic freedoms consisting mainly of the right to learn, carry out research freely and disclose the results of their research;
- 12. Understand scientific and research or artistic activities as a means of increasing the level of knowledge and cultural heritage; Realize and bear responsibility for the originality and objectiveness of their own creative work, and guarantee unbiasedness and correctness in interpretation of the results of their own creative work; Are responsible for the appropriateness, accuracy and objectiveness of the methods used and make sure that the results are not distorted; Know it is natural to disclose the results of their scientific and artistic activities under the conditions usual in their field of study;
- 13. Build their scientific or artistic activities on the latest development in their field of study; Document the outcomes of their work and archive them with care and consideration in accordance with FAIR data management principles (Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability and Reusability); Follow the specific rules of professional ethics in their particular field of study;
- 14. Reject and do not tolerate making up results and recording them as if they were real (fabrication), manipulating research materials, equipment or processes, or changing, omitting or suppressing data or results without justification (falsification), or using, presenting or publishing other people's thoughts, ideas or research results in a literal or modified form without giving proper credit to the original source (plagiarism); Foster correctness when applying and transferring technology; Enforce correction of any data, results or conclusions identified ex post as being false, at the same level of disclosure as originally submitted;
- 15. Treat any subject of research, be it human, animal or object of a physical, biological, environmental or cultural nature, with respect, care and in accordance with legal and ethical regulations; When working with biological materials, living organisms or materials of special nature, pay particular attention to the ethical principles applicable to such work;

Pay special attention to protection of the environment;

- 16. Publish any non-confidential results of scientific research transparently, accurately, openly and honestly, striving for the public availability of results of any research supported from public resources; Do not publish in an untrustworthy manner and do not use any disputable publication platforms such as 'predatory journals';
- 17. Sign any results of their work, documents or works with their own name, specifying their workplace and university, and state the names of any colleagues who have helped achieve the results; Respect all copyrights, rights of inventors and utility models; Act in accordance with applicable intellectual property protection rules;
- 18. Work with facts verified on the basis of scientific or research activities; Refrain from spreading hoaxes and conspiracy theories which are based on the ideas of individuals;
- 19. Use their abilities, knowledge, experience and skills to promote STU's reputation; Are proud to be members of STU and its individual parts; perform all actions in such a manner as to maintain STU's reputation and high social credit;
- 20. Realize that any conduct which is non-compliant with the principles contained herein violates STU's interests and that consequences in accordance with the Disciplinary Rules of the STU for students may be drawn from such conduct on the basis of a decision of the Faculty Disciplinary Commission or STU Disciplinary Commission.

# Article 3 Final provisions

- 1. The present Directive may be amended and supplemented only by written amendments issued and signed by the Rector.
- 2. After any amendment hereof has been published, the Rector is authorized to issue also a full wording of the Directive together with the amendment.
- 3. The present Directive shall become valid on the date it is issued and effective on March 20, 2021.

prof. Ing. Miroslav Fikar, PhD.<sup>1</sup> Rector

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> this document has been signed electronically