

## 10 CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Members of the Institute of Physics, at all grades of membership, should uphold personal values of excellence, integrity and respect for others in all aspects of their professional work. This Code of Professional Conduct outlines expectations of behaviour which the Institute upholds and members are encouraged to actively follow.

### 10.1 Members shall:

- a. promote the study, application and understanding of physics and shall promote the work of physicists at each appropriate opportunity in their professional lives
- b. act with integrity and shall not intentionally bring the Institute of Physics, or the staff or other members of the Institute, into disrepute
- c. ensure that any professional activities do not unnecessarily put at risk the health, safety or welfare of any person, and they shall have due regard for the effects on the environment and for the sustainability of any resources
- d. strive to be objective, unbiased and truthful in all aspects of their work. They shall exercise all reasonable due diligence, in presenting quality work to the best of their ability, by critically assessing the likelihood of experimental, methodological, systematic or human errors and avoiding bias or unfair influence
- e. properly acknowledge and correct any technical errors in their work at the earliest opportunity, and shall never plagiarise nor claim the credit or benefit for the work of others, nor fabricate, falsify or misrepresent data or results
- f. record the source material of their work in an auditable trail for the purposes of any professional scrutiny or quality based verification and shall ensure that those who have made a significant contribution to any piece of work are appropriately acknowledged
- g. exhibit honesty, integrity and transparency when applying for grants, financial funding or project approval.

10.2 Members who believe that they have a professional or personal conflict of interest, that may impair their ability to make objective judgment, shall disclose such interests, where relevant, to their employer, the Institute or any relevant authority.

10.3 Members with chartered designations shall take all necessary steps to maintain and develop their professional competence and knowledge, in relation to new developments relevant to their fields of professional activity, and shall encourage persons working under their direction, management or supervision to do likewise.

### 10.4 Members shall not:

- a. recklessly or maliciously damage, or attempt to harm, directly or indirectly, the reputation, prospects or businesses of others
- b. claim expertise or skill in any area of knowledge or professional practice in which they have insufficient competence, qualifications or experience.

### 10.5 Confidential reporting

If a person has first-hand knowledge that another member's behaviour is deliberately contrary to this Code of Conduct or are being asked themselves to break this Code of Conduct, and that there are no obvious and reasonable steps being taken to put the matter right, the member should raise their concerns or grievance confidentially with the Director of Membership in line with the Institute's procedures. Where a breach of this Code of Conduct is also a breach of their employer's internal Code of Conduct or the law, a member has an obligation to inform the relevant authorities of such a breach.