



Eighteen **Nobel Laureates**
since its foundation, four in
activity, make  European
research **shine** 



À NOTE ABOUT SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY, TO THE STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF STRASBOURG

Research activities and their findings contribute to enhancing knowledge as well as improving the economical development of our societies. They can occur only when trust is established between researchers in their respective structures (universities, National Institute for Scientific Research (CNRS), National Institute for Health and Medical Research (INSERM), etc.), public or private bodies that invest in research, policymakers, and all the people who benefit from that scientific and technological progress.

“Research work must be carried out by honest researchers using rigorous methods, publications must be freely accessed, the results obtained must be backed up and available.”

Extract from the report filed under the supervision of Professor Corvol at the request of the Minister of Research, in order to rally the scientific community on the topic of integrity. (June 29, 2016)

By seeking proficiency in research, you, as students, become major actors in such a system, actors whose first and foremost duty is to implement an honest research and to provide sound results.

Indeed, many recent scandals reveal how breaches in scientific integrity can result in tragic outcomes: the death of third parties, massive loss of money for institutions and funding organizations, poor decisions in matters of public policies, distrust from the part of the general public towards science and research, a drop in knowledge in a given field of research, a marred reputation

In March 2016, an egregious example of scientific misconduct received much attention: a famous thoracic surgeon, who had so far been considered a pioneer as he had performed the world’s first tracheal transplant, was unmasked for having forged a great many of his publications on stem cells, while a dozen of his patients had died because of inadequate medical treatment.

for an institute, a given researcher and/or their collaborators.

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Université

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At the University of Strasbourg, we believe there can be no excellence in research without integrity in research. Consequently we engage in a comprehensive approach, including reflection and a campaign to raise awareness—at local, national, and international levels. The setting out of a charter of deontology in all research activities, together with a range of courses coming with prevention measures at every level (departments, post-graduate schools, and research institutes), is part of a political will that is meant to grow in the coming years, one in which you will play a significant role.

The University of Strasbourg has pledged to promote scientific integrity by signing the “National Charter of deontology in research activities” in January 2015. Future doctoral candidates will be expected to know about its contents and also to commit themselves to respecting its terms.

The fabrication of data, the falsification of results, and plagiarism are no doubt blameworthy, including from a legal and penal perspective. But unintentional mistakes in the course of

Scientific integrity and its values are upheld by the University of Strasbourg as a whole, and more especially by all researchers who teach there and who endeavor to pass on those values as early on as in L1. Methodological rigor in all aspects of research will be dealt with through concrete examples during lectures as well as practical teachings (“Travaux dirigés” and “Travaux pratiques”).

experiments and in collecting or processing data, are far more frequent and can take a heavy toll. It is then of utmost importance that you take a full perspective on these topics as early on as possible, so that you may not fall prey to such eventual misconducts—particularly as early as the first year, in L1, when you are offered courses in “Méthodologie du travail universitaire”, and then, in the following years, at the Master level through

the PhD. Sticking to a rigorous methodology in your studies will enable you to bring to fruition a reliable research, which is a source of progress for a great many people.

Professeur Nicolas GIUSEPPONE

Référent pour l'intégrité scientifique de l'établissement