

**FACULTY SENATE  
FACULTY STATUS AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

*Recommendations for the Proposed University Code of Ethics*

Please see our comments in the Document. We are especially concerned that this Code of Ethics is, in places, word-for-word exactly the same as the one from Radford University. At the very least, it needs to be acknowledged that this is more than just incorporating "strong language" from their document; this is actually BASED on that document.

**DRAFT 8/10/09**  
**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**  
**CODE OF ETHICS**

In carrying out Southern Illinois University's teaching, research, public service, and patient care missions, members of the University community are committed to maintaining high ethical standards, striving for excellence, and complying with relevant laws and regulations. ~~With the encouragement and guidance of the Board of Trustees, a University Code of Ethics and a University Code of Conduct have been created.~~ The Code of Ethics forms the ethical principles that will guide all members of the University community in all decisions and activities.

**Comment [D1]:** Is this entire sentence necessary? Sounds kind of patronizing—as if the members would not have thought of ethics on their own but this might be well-established protocol.

The Code of Ethics applies throughout the entire SIU System and at all levels of the organization, including, but not limited to, the Board of Trustees and all employees.

These principles are:

**Respect.** We will nurture a climate of care, concern, fairness, and civility towards others while recognizing and embracing each individual's dignity, freedom and diversity.

**Honesty and Integrity.** We will act and communicate truthfully. We will make decisions based on the greater good, conducting ourselves free of personal conflicts [of interest](#) or appearances of impropriety and self-dealing.

**Cooperation and Communication.** We will work together to support our institutional missions. We will share information, within confidentiality requirements, with stakeholders regarding the process used in developing policies and making decisions for the University.

**Stewardship.** We will use University resources in a wise and prudent manner in order to achieve our teaching, research, public service, and patient care missions. We will not use University resources for personal benefit or gain. We will protect the integrity and security of confidential, proprietary, and private information such as student and patient records.

**Comment [D2]:** We might as well use the American comma rule, especially since that last document did.

**Continuous Improvement.** We will conduct University affairs diligently, exercising professional care and striving to meet the high expectations we have set for ourselves as well as the expectations of those we serve.

**Responsibility.** We will be trustworthy and responsible for our conduct, decisions and obligations and will comply with all applicable laws, regulations, policies and procedures.

**Accountability and Transparency.** We will maintain accurate financial records and distribute them in a timely and transparent fashion.

**Reporting Violations and Non-retaliation.** We will report ~~unethical~~ conduct [in violation of these principles](#) to appropriate authorities. We will not retaliate against anyone for making such reports.

The Southern Illinois University Code of Conduct is based on these guiding principles. All members of the University community should integrate the Code of Ethics' principles and the Code of Conduct's standards into their daily University activities.

Nothing in this Code of Ethics nor related policies limits or alters the obligations of officials and employees to comply with the relevant provisions of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act (5 ILCS 430/1 et seq.) ("Ethics Act").

#### Attribution

Many major universities have adopted excellent Codes of Ethics. This code incorporates strong language from codes developed by Radford University and Washington University of St. Louis.

## **Radford University Code of Ethics**

Radford University is committed to maintaining the highest ethical standards and to upholding the public's trust. We recognize that our behavior affects not only our own individual reputation, but also that of Radford University. Accordingly, this Code of Ethics forms the ethical principles that will guide all members of the university community in all decisions and activities. These principles are:

**Respect:** We will nurture a climate of care, concern, fairness, and civility toward others while recognizing and embracing each individual's dignity, freedom, and diversity even in the face of disagreement.

**Honesty and Integrity:** We will act and communicate truthfully and candidly. We will uphold the university's values and make decisions based on the greater good, conducting ourselves free of personal conflicts or appearances of impropriety and self-dealing.

**Communication:** We will openly share information with stakeholders regarding the processes used in developing policies and making decisions for the university.

**Stewardship:** We will use university resources in a wise and prudent manner in order to achieve our educational mission and strategic objectives. We will not use university resources for personal benefit or gain.

**Excellence:** We will conduct all university affairs diligently, exercising due professional care and striving to meet the high expectations we have set for ourselves as well as the expectations of those we serve.

**Responsibility and Accountability:** We will be trustworthy and answerable for our conduct, decisions and obligations and will comply with all applicable laws, regulations, policies and procedures. We recognize our obligation to report unethical conduct to appropriate authorities.

**Approved by Board of Visitors  
August 23, 2007**