

Code of Ethics

IPRO 332: Our Energy Future

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March 7, 2008



Overarching Principle

To promote awareness of resource consumption by delivering factual information to Chicago area students while maintaining the integrity of the program.

Level 1: Law

Canon

Strive to be knowledgeable regarding the laws governing copyright infringement, fraud, and IRS documentation, in order to ensure that all actions are conducted in a lawful manner.

Pressure: Being adequately prepared for a fast approaching presentation.

Risk: The ecological footprint is used without the consent of the original authors, and they are not acknowledged.

Pressure: To become self-sufficient through the sale of promotional materials.

Risk: Proper information about tax laws regarding an income generating organization are not researched and therefore mandatory taxes are not paid.

Measure: Contact a local attorney who is willing to do pro-bono work to ensure that all of the educational material adheres to legal standards.

Level 2: Contracts

Canon

If we enter into a contract, we will strive to maintain the original intended integrity of the program and the educational modules, while still fulfilling all contractual obligations.

Pressure: Entering into a contract for monetary gains at the expense of maintaining control over the modules and presentations.

Risk: Information is changed or lost or the presentation is changed to the extent that it no longer reflects the goals and ideas of our program.

Pressure: The other party to the contract wants to include biased or politically charged information in the presentation of the modules.

Risk: The quality of education and objectivity of the modules are threatened with the introduction of biased or political material.

Pressure: Fulfilling all obligations required of us in the contract.

Risk: Oversight on our part could result in accidental violations of the contract, which may result in termination of the contract.

Measure: Review contracts to ensure that the other party(s) cannot change our original information or intent without our consent.

Level 3: Professional Codes

Canon

Uphold the professional code of the education system by providing accurate and truthful information to help each student realize his or her effect on energy consumption thereby stimulating inquiry, understanding of knowledge and the formulation of worthy goals.

Pressure: Present facts about energy consumption in an informative and unbiased way.

Risk: Forcing our opinions onto students instead of allowing them to draw their own conclusions based on the information we provide.

Pressure: Modifying our presentation in order to reach all levels of education.

Risk: Omitting important facts that compromise the integrity of the presentation's message.

Measure: Uphold the National Association of Professional Educators' Code of Ethics in order to ensure proper teaching techniques.

Level 4: Industry Standards

Canon

Uphold the standards of schools in the Chicago area as well as across the country as guests and as educators by being honest and respectful to students.

Pressure: To have very informative and educative presentations.

Risk: Including content that is beyond the scope or understanding of a high school student.

Pressure: To show our credibility as educators by having successful student results on the post-test.

Risk: We teach answers, rather than concepts, to the students, or we manipulate the post Test results in our favor.

Pressure: To keep the class running smoothly.

Risk: We overstep our boundaries as guests in a school by disciplining the students too harshly or inappropriately, also causing embarrassment to the students.

Measure: Videotape our presentations and have an independent advisory board of teachers comment about the interactions with students and the content of the presentation.

Level 5: Community

Canon

Present unaltered information regarding resource consumption locally and on a more global scale (beyond the Chicago metropolitan area).

Pressure: To reach and inform the individuals of as many geographical regions and demographics as is possible.

Risk: Possibility for misinterpretation and misuse of information from differences in educational backgrounds and regional differences.

Pressure: To include and engage students in active discussions and activities.

Risk: If only a few students are responsive to the information, presenters may focus their interactions on them and ignore the rest of the class.

Pressure: To offer our presentation to students of various demographics.

Risk: When presenting to low motivation schools, presenters may stereotype the students and offer them less complex information.

Measure: Present only unaltered information in as clear and concise a manner as is possible in various forms in order to avoid misinterpretation of the information.

Level 6: Personal Relationships

Canon

An unbiased and informative presentation shall be delivered while keeping the students interested in the material being presented.

Pressure: Influencing student's opinions about their energy choices.

Risk: Telling students that they need to change their energy usage instead of promoting energy consumption awareness.

Pressure: To appeal to students as role models.

Risk: The presenters alter their presentation in order to look 'cool' to students.

Pressure: To have students actively contribute to discussions.

Risk: Creating an atmosphere where students feel uncomfortable sharing their opinions.

Measure: A review of presentation materials will be held prior to the first given presentation to assure that topics remain unbiased. Oral feedback will also be used to assess the overall effectiveness of the presentation.

Level 7: Morals

Canon

Any public interactions that our organization may encompass, shall not challenge anyone's personal beliefs or make them perform actions that could lead to an alteration of their personal morals.

Pressure: To provide an educational and personally enriching environment without aggressive subject bias or derogatory judgments.

Risk: Team members may feel inclined toward infusing their personal beliefs concerning a sensitive and divisive subject matter.

Pressure: To exercise honest and diligent work efforts.

Risk: Team members will undergo numerous demands and may feel susceptible to idleness, carelessness, and negligent inactivity.

Pressure: To ensure integrity within all actions and interpretations of data and materials.

Risk: Team members will interact with the public and may exercise personally critical overtones within conversation or may steer research or results to favor personal interests and pursuits.

Measure: In order for us to maintain morality, we will proactively hold each other accountable for the honest delivery of our acquired information, data, and any submissions such as time reporting, accurate feedback, and sound research.