

## CODE OF ETHICS FOR RESEARCH

**K J SOMAIYA COLLEGE OF ARTS AND COMMERCE,**

**VIDYAVIHAR, MUMBAI -400077**

**(AUTONOMOUS)**

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Research and development comprise of systematic work undertaken to enhance and increase the treasure of knowledge of people, culture, and society, and use of this treasure of knowledge to invent new applications for sustainable well-being. It is a culmination of activities original as well as innovative that encompass academic, professional, and technological domains. Research demands freedom of choice all the while comprehending their implications as well to maintain benchmarks requires rigor and integrity. Research shall therefore comply with ethical, legal, and professional bounds.

K J Somaia College of Arts and Commerce, Vidyavihar, Mumbai is one of the premier autonomous institutions of the University of Mumbai with a vision to reach the masses and it is managed by the Somaia Vidyavihar Trust. The institution has established the "Office of Dean of Research and Extension Activities" –a separate entity under the direction of the Principal – to promote the research ambience, create and sustain a research culture, motivate staff and students to engage in research activities. The aim is to inspire, guide and coordinate the initiatives of the staff and students towards doctoral and post-doctoral research in the sciences and the







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humanities, towards major and minor research projects, towards organizing of national and international conferences, towards presentation of research papers and their publication in reputed journals, and similar other research-related matters.

The Office of the Dean of Research and Extension Activities encompasses in its ambit all research activities and personnel under the auspices of K J Somaiya College of Arts and Commerce, Vidyavihar, Mumbai (Autonomous) including aided and management paid staff, and students and research scholars be they regular, part-time or external.

Academic freedom is the freedom to teach study and pursue knowledge and research without unreasonable interference or restriction from law, institutional regulations or public pressure. Its basic elements include the freedom of scholars to inquire into any subject that evokes intellectual concern, to present findings, to publish data and conclusions without control or censorship and to teach in the manner they consider professionally appropriate. At the same time, integrity, accountability and responsibility in conducting academic research form the cornerstone of any academic enterprise and violations of widely-recognized academic research standards represent serious offences to the entire academic community at the Institute and are considered injurious for its credibility and authority as an institution.

Academic integrity requires that academic research follows elevated professional standards, including appropriate research design and frameworks, adheres to high levels of research ethics and abides by the requirements set out by professional and regulatory research guidance and research ethics frameworks issued in appropriate areas. Academic integrity is defined in terms of the commitment to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, legality and dissemination.

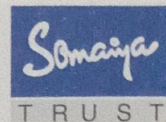






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## 2. INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Principal, the Heads of Departments, the Librarian, together with the teaching staff, are responsible for promoting and endorsing a transparent academic environment conducive to the application of the high professional and ethical criteria of good practice for academic research.

Research guides are expected to create and sustain a climate of mutual co-operation that facilitates the open exchange of ideas and the development of academic research skills. They are also expected to ensure the provision of appropriate supervision and direction for researchers, in accordance with the nature of the individual academic discipline and associated mode of research. The K J Somaia College of Arts and Commerce, Vidyavihar, Mumbai is committed to the provision of appropriate direction of research and supervision for researchers. Supervisors are expected to adhere to norms for Doctoral Supervision as and when prescribed and modified by University of Mumbai, which delineates the supervisory relationship, the assessment of research progress, and the procedures to resolve problems in the supervisory relationship.

The Research Centres should ensure that all researchers undertake appropriate training in research design, methodology, regulatory and ethics approvals and consents, equipment use, confidentiality, data management, record keeping, data protection and publication, the appropriate use of licensed research resources and respect for the intellectual property rights of third parties.







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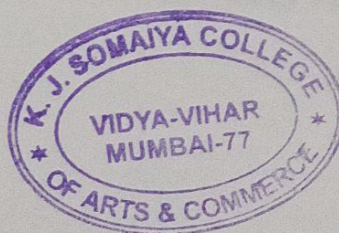
### **3. PUBLICATION PRACTICE AND AUTHORSHIP**

The K J Somaia College of Arts and Commerce, Vidyavihar, Mumbai encourages the publication and dissemination of results of high quality research. It also expects that researchers will engage in the process of publishing and dissemination of their work responsibly and with an awareness of the consequences of any such dissemination in the wider media. Results should be published in a form appropriate to the academic discipline. The Institute requires that all individuals listed as authors accept responsibility for the contents of the publication and can identify their contribution to it. Authors should have participated sufficiently in the research to take public responsibility for the content.

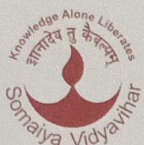
### **4. ROLE OF ETHICS COMMITTEE**

The role of ethics committee is:

1. Providing advice and guidance to the academic community on all matters pertaining to academic research ethics
2. Advising the Academic Council on compliance with the 'Code of Ethics in Academic Research' of the various academic activities at the college
3. Providing guidance and academic support to scholars on ethical issues in respect of teaching, research and other academic activities
4. Advising the Academic Council of any policies that may be required in relation to accepting funds from particular sponsors of research
5. Acting as an investigative/consultative body for any disputed matter concerning research ethics and conduct







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6. Making recommendations to the KJSAC on what action, if any, should be taken as a result of the investigations.

## **5. COMPOSITION OF ETHIC COMMITTEE**

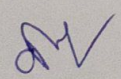
The Research Acceptance Review and Recommendation Committee of KJSAC College will acts as ethics committee.

## **6. MISCONDUCT IN ACADEMIC RESEARCH**

Misconduct in academic research implies (and is not limited to) fabrication, falsification, plagiarism or deception in proposing, carrying out or reporting results of research and deliberate, dangerous or negligent deviations from accepted practice in carrying out research. It includes failure to follow an agreed protocol if and when this failure results in unreasonable risk or harm to persons, the environment, and when it facilitates misconduct in research by collusion in, or concealment of, such actions by others. Misconduct also includes any plan or attempt to do any of these things. It does not include honest error or honest differences in interpretation or judgment in evaluating research methods or results, or misconduct unrelated to research processes. Any misconduct will be treated as per the provisions enacted by the University of Mumbai, UGC and the Maharashtra Public University Act.

**NOTE: THE CODE OF ETHICS IN RESEARCH ARE SUBJECT WILL CHANGE ON ANY INSTRUCTIONS FROM UGC AND THE UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI**



  
**Dr. (Smt.) Veena Sanekar**

**I/C Principal**