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ACADEMIC INTEGRITY – A CORE VALUE OF THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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The article analyzes the international and domestic experience of ensuring academic integrity in institutions of higher education.

The authors analyzed the models of compliance with academic integrity in the countries of the European Union. An analysis of the experience of popularization and observance of academic integrity at the Faculty of Social and Psychological Education of Uman State Pedagogical University named after Pavlo Tychyna was also carried out. The organizational and legal foundations of the formation of the institute of academic integrity in the field of education, which are declared in the Laws of Ukraine «On higher education», «On education», «On copyright and related rights», «On scientific and scientific and technical activity» are presented; drafts of the Law of Ukraine «On Academic Integrity»; Recommendations for institutions of higher education regarding the development and implementation of a university system for ensuring academic integrity.

Keywords: academic integrity, training of higher education applicants, international academic integrity, educational and professional program.

АКАДЕМІЧНА ДОБРОЧЕСНІСТЬ – ЗАСАДНИЧА ЦІННІСТЬ ДІЯЛЬНОСТІ ЗАКЛАДУ ВИЩОЇ ОСВІТИ

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У статті здійснено аналіз міжнародного та вітчизняного досвіду забезпечення академічної доброчесності в закладах вищої освіти.

Авторами проаналізовано моделі дотримання академічної доброчесності в країнах Європейського Союзу. Також здійснено аналіз досвіду популяризації та дотримання



академічної доброчесності на факультеті соціальної та психологічної освіти Уманського державного педагогічного університету імені Павла Тичини. Представлено організаційноправові основи формування інституту академічної доброчесності у сфері освіти, які задекларовані у Законах України «Про вищу освіту», «Про освіту», «Про авторське право і суміжні права», «Про наукову та науково-технічну діяльність»; проєкті Закону України «Про академічну доброчесність»; Рекомендаціях для закладів вищої освіти щодо розробки та впровадження університетської системи забезпечення академічної доброчесності.

Ключові слова: академічна доброчесність, підготовка здобувачів вищої освіти, міжнародна академічна доброчесність, освітньо-професійна програма.

Problem statement in a general form and its connection with important scientific and practical tasks. Academic integrity is a relevant, modern issue for the fields of higher education and science. The European integration of the educational process in Ukraine stimulates the activation of innovative trends of meeting the quality standards of higher education abroad [1].

The concept of «academic integrity» is paid both to the internal culture of an individual and to the general corporate culture of a higher education institution [2].

Analysis of recent research papers and publications. T. Dobko, V. Banys, B. Buyak, T. Finikov, V. Turchynovskyi, A. Melnychenko, O. Menshov, A. Artyukhov, N. Gapon, R. Belanova, and others have investigated the problem of establishing academic integrity as a basis for the development of a higher education institution.; as an educational phenomenon, the issue of academic integrity was studied by M. Hrynyova, N. Gapon, D. Zahirnyak, V. Romakin, R. Belanova, O. Traverse, T. Yaroshenko, A. Syngaivska, O. Tsokur, L. Pivneva, L. Riga. Also worthy of attention is the study of academic culture as a necessary prerequisite for effective management of a modern university under conditions of autonomy [6]; the subject of Y. Kalinovskyi's research [8] is the formation of academic integrity as a factor in the legal education of students; O. Guzhva [4] highlights the problem of formation of academic ethics and literacy.

A. Nedypich, V. Vasylenko in their work highlight the foreign experience of the peculiarities of observing the principles of academic integrity, namely in France, the USA, Poland, and Sweden [10].

Presentation of the key points of the study with a full justification of the obtained scientific results. According to Article 42 of the Law of Ukraine «On Education» (2017), the concept of «academic integrity is a set of ethical principles and rules defined by law that should be guided by the participants of the educational process during training, teaching and carrying out scientific (creative) activities in order to ensure trust to learning outcomes and / or scientific (creative) achievements». Violations of academic integrity include: academic plagiarism, fabrication, deception, cheating, bribery [12].

In European countries, the concept of «academic integrity» is regulated as «thoroughness of scientific research – it covers every stage of scientific activity, with the help of procedures and administrative practices that function in the conditions of the autonomy of the scientist and the scientific institution» (Poland). However, the generally accepted concept of «academic integrity» is defined by the Association of the European Network for Academic Integrity (European Network for Academic Integrity) as «compliance with ethical and professional principles, standards, practices and a consistent system of values that serves as a guide for decision-making and taking actions in education, research and science» [15].

Adherence to academic integrity in *Australian* higher education institutions is an important component of the educational process and subsequent employment of the applicant. For Australians, any form of academic misconduct means losing out on important professional knowledge and practical skills needed for a successful future career. Compliance with academic integrity in institutions of higher education is determined by: correctly formatted information used in the work (citation or reference to the source); independent completion of own exams



and submission of own work; accurate and clear reporting of research results and adherence to research policies; using information appropriately in accordance with copyright and privacy laws [16]. However, for violation of academic integrity, punishment is possible, which could include: repeating the task; non-enrollment or non-evaluation of a course, topic, educational module, etc.; expulsion from a higher education institution; prosecution [16].

In European countries, typical violations of academic integrity are: verbatim copying of someone else's work; the written fragment contains a significant portion of the text from one source without any changes; replacement of keywords and phrases, but the main content of the source remains unchanged; paraphrasing other sources, arranged in such a way that their content looks complete, «seamless»; involves significant borrowing from the author's own previous works without citation, i.e. «self-plagiarism»; a perfect combination of cited works and copied passages without references in one work is common; combining borrowed materials from several sources without appropriate citation; written fragments with references to non-existent or inaccurate information [5].

In *Poland*, the following forms of violation of academic integrity in scientific research are distinguished: substitution or borrowing of the whole or part of the research; systematic presentation of one and the same own scientific research as new; auto-plagiarism – inclusion of parts of one's own scientific works in a new one without reference to them; corporate plagiarism – formal reworking of someone else's scientific work or part of it in one's own research (adaptive, co-authored). Verification of compliance with the academic integrity of scientific work is carried out by the scientific supervisor, programs for checking for plagiarism in accordance with the regulatory documents of the institution of higher education [9].

Nine criteria for compliance with academic integrity have been identified in German higher education institutions: transparency of academic integrity and quality assurance; a fair, effective and consistent anti-plagiarism academic policy; use of digital tools and language repositories; preventive strategies and measures; informing about policies and procedures; knowledge and understanding of academic integrity; trainings for applicants and scientific and pedagogical workers; research and innovation in academic integrity [7]

The scientific community actively discusses and openly fights academic plagiarism. For example, in the UK there is an independent arbitration office (in England and Wales) whose activities are focused on responses to unfair practices in the field of academic integrity. In Austria, a system of collecting statistical data on detected cases of plagiarism has been created; developed national requirements for conducting research in terms of academic integrity (Austrian Research Integrity Agency); specialized software is used to detect plagiarism. In Sweden, there is a national system for collecting statistical data on detected cases of academic misconduct in universities and publishing annual reports based on them. At the national level, the procedure for settling violations in the field of academic integrity has been determined, which involves the creation of special institutional commissions on the ground, which are led by the vice chancellor of the university [5].

Also, the activity of the European Network of Academic Integrity (ENAI) association is a platform for promoting academic integrity, sharing experience and best practices, developing materials and cooperating in solving ethical problems in academic circles. The aim of this platform is to promote integrity in all academic circles (ie education, research and other aspects of the academic sector) [10; 15].

Affirmation of the principles of academic culture and integrity in higher education institutions of Ukraine is a fundamental value on which relations in the academic environment should be based, as well as the training of scientific and pedagogical personnel.

The organizational and legal foundations of the formation of the institute of academic integrity in the field of education are declared in the Laws of Ukraine «On higher education», «On education», «On copyright and related rights», «On scientific and scientific and technical



activity»; drafts of the Law of Ukraine «On Academic Integrity»; Recommendations for higher education institutions regarding the development and implementation of a university system for ensuring academic integrity (approved by the Decision of the National Agency for Quality Assurance of Higher Education dated October 29, 2019, protocol No. 11) and others.

The spread of the principles of academic ethics in the educational and scientific environment is facilitated by: informing about measures to prevent manifestations of academic misconduct and their implementation at the university; discussion in student groups of the principles of academic ethics, thematic meetings, etc.

At Pavlo Tychyna Uman State Pedagogical University, issues of academic integrity are regulated by the Charter (https://cutt.ly/8E2KK1G), the Code of Ethics (https://bit.ly/3lDxzbO), the Code of Academic Integrity (https://bit.ly/3Lkj2gk), The procedure for checking dissertations for academic plagiarism (https://bit.ly/3Fwglio), Methodical recommendations for preventing and detecting academic plagiarism at the Faculty of Social and Psychological Education (https://bit.ly/3AUwp1U).

At the Faculty of Social and Psychological Education, the promotion of academic integrity in the educational process is carried out through the implementation of a system of measures:

- establishment of conditions for the development of mutual trust and respect between participants of educational process;
- activities of the Academic Integrity Promotion Group of the faculty (https://bit.ly/31iT0Yj, https://bit.ly/3ouQeZ2);
- information on the website of the university, the faculty and in social networks about measures to create a culture of academic integrity (https://cutt.ly/TE9qBqM, https://cutt.ly/FE9q0q8);
- conducting classes, training and seminars for participants of educational process; discussion of the principles of academic ethics;
- thematic meetings with guarantor applicants, a lawyer, the head of the university's Commission on Academic Integrity, the Faculty's Academic Integrity Promotion Group, library employees (https://bit.ly/3GLhx8P, https://cutt.ly/wE9q8hT, https://cutt.ly/tE9q54f, https://cutt.ly/AE9ww4c, https://cutt.ly/5E9wuff, https://cutt.ly/OE9wpcF, https://bit.ly/3xYOdrc, https://bit.ly/3xZuhED, https://bit.ly/3yjtJtn);
- establishment of the policy of academic disciplines based on the observance of the principles of academic integrity, implementation of educational components «Scientific research and academic integrity»;
- study of experience in the implementation of academic integrity in the educational environment (project «Academic Integrity» with the support of the British Council (https://cutt.ly/xE9xu0G, https://cutt.ly/8E9whqE, https://cutt.ly/jE9wlU4) etc.);
- discussion of issues of compliance with the principles of academic integrity at meetings of the academic council of the university, the faculty, the Scientific Society of students and graduate students, meetings of departments, etc.

The tasks of the Faculty Academic Integrity Promotion Group (http://surl.li/azbjr), which includes scientific and pedagogical workers, students, representatives of student self-government bodies, are:

- popularization of academic integrity among students of higher education institutions and employees;
- involvement of students and their associations, stakeholders in the promotion of academic integrity at the University;
- development and improvement of the normative and informational base of the University on the promotion of academic integrity, mechanisms of prevention, detection and procedure for consideration of cases of violation of academic integrity at the University;



– coordination of compliance with academic integrity in the educational and scientific environment.

In order to improve the policy, standards and procedure of academic integrity compliance by the working group of the developers of the educational and scientific program «Social work» of the third (educational and scientific) level of higher education (2021), higher education seekers, the working group has developed «Methodological recommendations for the prevention and detection of academic plagiarism at the Faculty of Social and Psychological Education of Pavlo Tychyna Uman State Pedagogical University» (2021) [13].

Methodological recommendations regulate the activity of the faculty regarding the prevention and detection of academic plagiarism in the works of participants of educational process (educational and qualifying works of higher education holders of the educational degrees «Junior Bachelor», «Bachelor», «Master», «Doctor of Philosophy», holders of the scientific degree «Doctor of Science» full-time and part-time forms of education; scientific works of scientific and pedagogical workers, students of higher education) and establishes a uniform procedure for checking qualification and scientific works for the presence of textual borrowings based on the Regulation on prevention and detection of academic plagiarism at Pavlo Tychyna Uman State Pedagogical University (decision of the academic council of the university dated 24.01.2017, protocol No. 8, with changes) and the Code of Academic Integrity of Pavlo Tychyna Uman State Pedagogical University (decision of the academic council of the university dated 28.11.2017, protocol No. 4) [13].

In order to implement the declared legislative norms on academic integrity in institutions of higher education, to strengthen the effectiveness of policies, standards and procedures for compliance with academic integrity, the educational and scientific program «Social Work» (2021) at the Faculty of Social and Psychological Education of Pavlo Tychyna Uman State Pedagogical University has launched a mandatory compulsory educational component «Scientific research and academic integrity». The subject of study of the academic discipline «Scientific research and academic integrity» is the analysis of current legislation, the possibilities of technical means, tools for combating violations of academic integrity, the implementation of a professional analysis of information regarding the possible occurrence of ethical violations and conflicts of interest in the context of ensuring the ethics of research, organization and conduct of the educational process, scientific and professional activities for the acquisition of practical skills, abilities and competences to counteract manifestations of academic misconduct [14].

The project «Academic integrity as a component of the quality of the educational process in higher education institutions» was developed and implemented on the basis of a grant from the British Council for the implementation of student initiatives (to understand the basics of scientific research, project management and self-presentation of students, awareness of the need for an environment in which honesty is one from the main values and formation of a community of students for whom manifestation of academic misconduct is unacceptable). Post-graduate students, academic supervisors, scientific and pedagogical staff of the Faculty of Social and Psychological Education of the Pavlo Tychyna Uman State Pedagogical University of Applied Sciences, the Student Council of the Faculty, the Scientific Society of Post-Graduate and Doctoral Students, etc. are involved in the work on the project [3].

Conclusions of the study. and prospects for further research in this direction. Therefore, academic integrity in institutions of higher education in Ukraine and abroad has a single goal. Each country has its own peculiarities of the educational activity of higher education institutions, but the term «academic integrity», the criteria for observing academic integrity and the types of typical violations of academic integrity are common to European countries. The promotion of academic integrity among students of higher education is carried out through the implementation of a system of measures for the promotion of academic integrity through the



implementation of this policy in the internal culture of quality and prevention of academic plagiarism: counteracting any manifestations of undue advantage; informing on the website of the faculty and in social networks about measures to ensure academic integrity; conducting trainings and seminars for participants in the educational process with the aim of encouraging them to behave ethically and to develop skills to combat academic misconduct; formation of conditions for the development of mutual trust and respect between the participants of the educational process; studying the experience of domestic and foreign educational institutions regarding the implementation of academic integrity in the educational environment, etc.

Among the promising relevant issues is the practice of higher education institutions in relation to policies, standards and procedures for compliance with academic integrity, the process of forming a culture of academic integrity among participants in the educational process, the promotion of academic integrity among students of higher education, research and teaching staff, effective tools for countering violations of academic integrity, etc.

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