LERU DOCTORAL SUMMER SCHOOL:  
“Doing the right things right”: Research Integrity in a complex society

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The aim of the LERU Doctoral Summer School is to provide doctoral candidates with unique professional and personal development opportunities beyond what they are generally exposed to in the course of their PhD training.

By creating an exceptional and truly international, intercultural and interdisciplinary meeting of bright young minds, the Summer School creates a highly stimulating learning experience which is of long lasting value to the participants’ future careers.

www.leru.org
“Doing the right things right”
Research integrity in a complex society

University of Helsinki. Institute of Behavioural Sciences
14th to 18th July 2014
41 PhD students from 21 LERU universities (+3 guest universities)
2014 Summer School Aim

- Make the state-of-the-art in RI available to the PhD students through interaction with leading experts.
- Raise awareness of and interest in ethical questions in research and innovation by creating a stimulating cross-disciplinary environment.
- Promote the students’ appreciation for ethically sustainable solutions in research and innovation.
- Help students develop tools for recognizing, analyzing and solving ethical issues in research.
- Promote the development of such qualities and competencies that prepare the students to function as future ethical leaders in their research communities.
Program

- Ethical underpinnings of research
  - Ethics in Academia
  - Working with ethical issues in research: a moral psychological approach

- Guidelines for research
  - Science in and for society
  - Research integrity in Europe

- Field-specific ethical issues in research

- The researcher in society
  - Stakeholders and media
  - Editors

- Ethical Academia

Methodology

Experts oral presentations
Methodology

Workshops: group discussion and interaction through Flinga
Methodology

Clinics

We fixed private meetings with ethics and research integrity experts. We could meet and share with them our doubts, difficulties and problems in a safe, private and confidential space.
Methodology

Group Work

By organizing interdisciplinary and international groups, we worked on specific topics taking different roles.
Methodology

Panel discussion
Learning and contents

Common difficulties PhD students face

- Struggle with similar issues related to academic integrity.

- We must...
  - Establish rules on ethics and integrity.
  - Acquire good practices as part of our doctoral training.
  - Learn by example.
  - Encourage more dialogue between trainee and mentor.
  - Engage scholars in collegial discourse on these challenging topics.

Letter to the LERU Doctoral Studies Community, on behalf of the LERU Summer School 2014 participants. The opinions expressed here are only the students’ opinions.
The students attending the LERU Summer Doctoral School would like...

- Conjoint ethical standards and guidelines
- Ethical committees
- Learning ethics and leading by example
- Publications
- Funding
- Innovation in ethical approaches and community outreach/distribution of results
Conjoint ethical standards and guidelines

- All LERU universities should commit to conjoint ethical standards and guidelines.
- This commitment should encompass all areas of the universitarian life.
- Set and known Code of Conduct.
Ethical committees

- Transparently composed and operating ethical committees at each university
  - Source of information and guidance during the development and implementation of research.
  - Student representative part of the ethical committee.
  - Support to young scholars at the undergraduate and graduate level.
  - Intervene if research integrity is at risk.
Learning and contents

Learning ethics and leading by example

- We see a need for formal training about research ethics across the entire career span.
  - lectures, recurring discussions, and exercises during research meetings etc.

- The senior researchers must preserve and develop ethical standards within their groups and to lead by example.
  - Provide further training and ongoing support for senior researchers
  - Ethical merit should be part of their evaluation.
Learning and contents

Publications

- Establish quality markers apart from ‘publication counting’
- Scientific publications is currently dominated by paywall.
- LERU should use its influence to promote truly impartial and rational publishing standards and procedures
Learning and contents

Funding

- Funding must reward the quality of a research proposal and should not be based on the number of publications of the applicant.
- Preserve the academy's ability to set its own research agenda not driven by outside economic interests.
- LERU set tools in place to promote the exchange of knowledge and facilities within and between the LERU institutions.
- Diversify funding sources
Learning and contents

Innovation in ethical approaches and community outreach/distribution of results

- Research ethics must develop with the institutions, the researchers and every generation of students.

- LERU members to treat research integrity as an essential element of quality research

- Academic research results must be disseminated in a clear and truthful way to the public at large.
Final remarks

- The LERU summer school has given us an opportunity to jointly reflect on academic ethics and integrity.

- What now?
  - Continue discussing these issues on institutional, national and European levels.
  - Integrate the graduate students in this discussion.
Leisure activities

Welcome reception
Leisure activities

Introduction to Finnish language and culture

- Huomenta! - Hyvää huomenta!
- Päivää! / Hei! / Tervetuloa / Moin!
- Iltaa!
- Näkemiin! / Hei hei!
- Hyvää yöä! Nuku hyvin!
- Hei! Mitä kuuluu?
- Kiitos hyvää! Entä sinulle?
- Ei mitään erikoista.
Leisure activities

Helsinki City Tour
Leisure activities

Rector’s Reception
Personal experience

- Great opportunity to learn about ethics and research integrity from experts and as well, from different points of view.
- The LERU summer school has given us an opportunity to jointly reflect on academic ethics and integrity.
- LERU meant the opportunity to build an international network of PhD students willing to continue to learn about ethics and research integrity.
- Spreading the word!
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