

# Globethics Repository

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## Code of conduct

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## CODE OF CONDUCT

### Preamble:

Members of LIASA significantly influence or control the selection, organization, preservation and dissemination of information. In addition members belong to a profession explicitly committed to intellectual freedom and access to information. In order to uphold these ideals, LIASA members should subscribe to a code of ethics that establishes principles of professional practice and responsibility.

### Purpose of Code:

The purpose of this Code is to set forth guidelines for the ethical conduct expected of all members of LIASA. The principles of this code are expressed in broad terms in order to guide ethical decision-making. Membership of LIASA implies adherence to the Code of Conduct.

1. Members should adhere to the Constitution and Rules of LIASA and the provisions of this Code of Conduct.
2. Members should not engage in conduct that will bring the profession and/or LIASA into disrepute.
3. Members should actively work towards the improvement of library and information services in general and acknowledge the need to protect the reputation and integrity of the profession.
4. Members should at all times be competent in their professional tasks and ensure that their knowledge and skills are kept up-to-date.
5. Members should observe the laws of South Africa especially these concerned with copyright, confidentiality and freedom of access to information.
6. Members should ensure the free flow of information, freedom of speech and freedom of expression and the right of access to information.
7. Members should ensure that the contractual obligations owed to their employers are fulfilled to the best of their ability.
8. Members should follow the highest level of personal integrity and competence in the performance of their duties.
9. Members should provide and promote the highest level of service, accurate and unbiased regardless of their own personal beliefs. The personal views of the member are subordinate to his/her professional principles.
10. Members should not exercise censorship, but facilitate and allow for the free and equal access to all sources of information.
11. Members should support intellectual freedom.
12. Members should protect the right to privacy and dignity of all library staff and users and show respect for the confidentiality of the library-client relationship, even after the relationship ceases.
13. Members should treat their fellow workers with respect.
14. Members should aim to build up well-organized, updated and balanced collections and have the right and obligation to protect all library material from theft, misuse and damage.
15. Members should not discriminate on the grounds of socio-economic status, politics, age, race, colour, creed, gender or sexual orientation.

### Conclusion:

We believe it is the duty of all LIS workers in SA to be professionally involved in the educational, research and community life in their working environment. This Code aims to provide a framework for such activity. It cannot and does not prescribe conduct to cover particular situations.

28 June 2002