Workshop at VITAE 2014

Ethical Leadership in Research

Professor Shailey Minocha, Centre for Research in Computing, The Open University, UK

Workshop outline

Ethical principles and moral concerns are a key component of VITAE's Researcher Development Framework (RDF) and are associated with the professional conduct of researchers. Being sensitised to ethical issues during postgraduate and early career research will contribute to the development of ethical leadership skills.

Ethical leadership skills influence research projects in various ways: task performance of researchers on projects; efficiency, effectiveness and impact of research projects; financial integrity; promoting values that are essential to collaborative work such as trust, accountability, mutual respect, fairness, intellectual property interests, data-sharing policies and authorship; and promoting moral and social values such a social responsibility, compliance with the law, health and safety, human rights and animal welfare.

This workshop will cover:

- strategies on embedding training on ethics in researcher development programmes;
- linking the adherence to ethical considerations in research to engendering ethical leadership skills;
- reflecting on why ethical leadership in research careers matters; and
- how ethical research leaders can lead others to be ethical and can shape cultures and systems to foster ethical behaviour.

Participants will:

- develop and implement strategies on embedding ethical considerations and moral principles in the researcher training and development programmes in their institutions;
- understand the relationship between adherence to ethical principles in research projects to development of ethical leadership skills;
- understand the significance of ethical leadership for the efficiency, effectiveness and impact of research projects; and
- instil ethical leadership skills in their postgraduate researchers and early career researchers.