How and what should we teach novice geoscientists about geoethics?

Vince Cronin

International Association for Promoting Geoethics (www.geoethics.org) and Baylor University
Your Homework
CroninProjects.org

click on “Vince’s projects”
Portage Lake with the end of the Portage Glacier just barely visible as a thin blue sliver in the center of the photo, above and beyond the far end of the lake. Photo taken April 29, 2014, by Vince Cronin in Chugach National Forest near Whittier, Alaska.
Portage Lake with the end of the Portage Glacier just barely visible as a thin blue sliver in the center of the photo, above and beyond the far end of the lake. Photo taken April 29, 2014, by Vince Cronin in Chugach National Forest near Whittier, Alaska.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Activities/Calendar</th>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Credentials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cronin's Students</td>
<td>Earthquakes</td>
<td>Geode</td>
<td>Physical Geology Labs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Models</td>
<td>Plate Kinematics</td>
<td>Service</td>
<td>SLAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student pages, et cetera</td>
<td>Vince's average weekly schedule</td>
<td>Useful Links</td>
<td>Advice on thesis writing, proposals, defenses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have any questions or comments about this site or its contents, drop an email to the humble webmaster.
All of the original content of this website is © 2015 by Vincent S. Cronin

click on “GeoEthics”
GeoEthics Resources

Codes of Ethics and Professional Practice

Ethics Organizations, Centers and Institutes

Ethics Resources Online

Presentations About Ethics

Writings About Ethics

Textbooks and References About Ethics

This is not a static resource, so please send your suggestions for additional resources to Vince Cronin via Vince_Cronin@CroninProjects.org.

Images modified (cropped, changed resolution) from originals available via Creative Commons from
https://openclipart.org/image/2400px/svg_to_png/204962/rosettastone.png
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pollen_in_Wabe_31b.jpg
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pete_Forsyth_demonstrating_Wikipedia_use_by_Ellis_Christopher.jpg
https://tobiasmastgrave.files.wordpress.com/2015/06/editing.jpg
http://www.knightarts.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/Interior3Hill-1024x690.jpg

If you have any questions or comments about this site or its contents, drop an email to the humble webmaster.
All of the original content of this website is © 2015 by Vincent S. Cronin
AAPG CODE OF ETHICS

General Principles
1. Geology is a profession, and the privilege of professional practice requires professional morality and professional responsibility.
2. Honesty, integrity, loyalty, fairness, impartiality, candor, fidelity to trust, and inviolability of confidence are incumbent upon every member as professional obligations.
3. Each member shall be guided by high standards of business ethics, personal honor, and professional conduct. The word “member” as used throughout this code includes all classes of membership.

conflicts of interest that may arise from information gained during geological investigations.

Relation of Members to One Another
1. Members shall not falsely or maliciously attempt to injure the reputation or business of others.
2. Members shall freely recognize the work done by others, avoid plagiarism, and avoid the acceptance of credit due others.
3. Members shall endeavor to cooperate with others in the profession and shall encourage the ethical dissemination of geological
hypocrites
sanctimonious hypocrites
useless ignorant sanctimonious hypocrites
useless ignorant sanctimonious hypocrites and scolds
about being judgmental
humility
Avoid judging another person
Ethics is related to the need to seek happiness, to avoid suffering, and to be mindful of the needs of others.
Ethics asks us to pay attention to something beyond ourselves

Anthony Weston
Ethics asks us to pay attention to something beyond ourselves.

To think and act ethically is to take care for the basic needs and legitimate expectations of others, as well as our own.

Anthony Weston
Society depends on professional geoscientists to provide reliable information and unbiased expert advice about the natural world.
• Golden Rule
• Tell the truth
• Do good work
Teach yourself about professional geoethics
Teach yourself about professional geoethics

Act in light of facts
Teach yourself about professional geoethics

Act in light of facts

Be mindful of the consequences of your words and actions
Integrity involves...

[1] *discerning* what is right and what is wrong,

[2] *acting* on what you have discerned, even at personal cost, and

[3] *saying openly* that you are acting on your understanding of right and wrong.

Stephen Carter
What does “professional ethics” mean to a professional geoscientist?
A case study with an ethical dimension
San Fernando earthquake 1971
San Andreas Fault
1906 break

Older fault zone with fissures and cracks reported by Lawson and others, 1908, p. 94

Property line
2014 Napa earthquake, M 6, $400 million damage
2014 Nepal earthquake, M 7.8, >4,200 deaths, ~$10 billion damage
1906 San Francisco earthquake
M 7.8, ~3,000 deaths
~$10.5 billion damage (2015 $)
~12 feet of right-lateral offset near development site
What ethical problems or issues should we introduce to geoscience students...?
The ultimate domain of GeoEthics

Geoscientists have a unique responsibility for the stewardship of our home.
The ultimate domain of GeoEthics

Geoscientists have a unique responsibility for the stewardship of our home.

We bear our special knowledge in trust for all of humanity.
The ultimate domain of GeoEthics

Geoscientists are the intellectual interface between humanity and Earth’s resources, hazards, and vulnerabilities.
JAMES HUTTON
M.D., F.R.S.E.,
1726 - 1797.
THE FOUNDER OF MODERN GEOLOGY
These guidelines address common ethical topics across the geoscience community; the ethics statements of individual societies may expand beyond these guidelines.

Geoscientists play a critical role in ethical decision making about stewardship of the Earth, the use of its resources, and the interactions between humankind and the planet on which we live. Geoscientists must earn the public’s trust and maintain confidence in the work of individual geoscientists and the geosciences as a profession. The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) expects those in the profession to adhere to the highest ethical standards in all professional activities. Geoscientists should engage responsibly in the conduct and reporting of their work, acknowledging the uncertainties and limits of current understanding inherent in studies of natural systems. Geoscientists should respect the work of colleagues and those who use and rely upon the products of their work.

In day-to-day activities geoscientists should:

» Be honest.

» Act responsibly and with integrity, acknowledge limitations to knowledge and understanding, and be accountable for their errors.

» Present professional work and reports without falsification or fabrication of data, misleading statements, or unauthorized representation of facts.

As members of a professional and scientific community, geoscientists should:

» Promote greater understanding of the geosciences by other technical groups, students, the general public, news media, and policy makers through effective communication and education.

» Conduct their work recognizing the complexities and uncertainties of the Earth system.
As members of a professional and scientific community, geoscientists should promote greater understanding of the geosciences by other technical groups, students, the general public, news media, and policy makers through effective communication and education.
As members of a professional and scientific community, geoscientists should use their technical knowledge and skills to protect public health, safety, and welfare, and enhance the sustainability of society.
As members of a professional and scientific community, geoscientists should responsibly inform the public about natural resources, hazards, and other geoscience phenomena with clarity and accuracy.
As members of a professional and scientific community, geoscientists should support responsible stewardship through an improved understanding and interpretation of the Earth, and by communicating known and potential impacts of human activities and natural processes.
Vince_Cronin@CroninProjects.org
or
Vince_Cronin@baylor.edu

__________________________________________
CroninProjects.org/Vince/GeoEthics/

www.geoethics.org