

BTS CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ITS MEMBERS

Introduction

The British Toxicology Society (Society) is dedicated to providing an interactive forum for the advancement and exchange of toxicologic information between industry, government and academia. Its vision is to "drive excellence in toxicology." The Society is a charity with a mission "to provide the principle forum for toxicology in the UK, to support and enrich the careers of toxicologists, and to promote the importance and advancement of toxicology in the wider scientific and lay communities." We are a friendly and collaborative global community.

Admission to membership of the Society as a charitable organisation carries with it certain privileges. Members are expected to abide by this Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct is applicable to all its members who should abide by the following principles:

- observe the provisions of the <u>Memorandum and Articles of Association of the</u> <u>BTS</u> and any regulations made under them;
- observe the <u>BTS Policies;</u>
- uphold the dignity and reputation of the profession of toxicology;
- exercise their professional and personal skill and judgement to the best of their ability;
- discharge their professional responsibilities with integrity.

To meet the vision and mission of the Society (https://www.thebts.org/) each member must follow this Code of conduct and shall:

- uphold and promote the Society's charitable purposes and refrain from conduct that risks damaging or undermining those purposes or the Society's reputation;
- work in partnership, considerately and respectfully, with the Society's community of members, the public and the Society's secretariat and not engage in any form of bullying, harassment or abuse;
- uphold the Society's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion and not act in a way that discriminates against any individual or group;
- commit to providing the highest quality science with due regard for objectivity, integrity and confidentiality;
- present scientific and/or professional opinions with full disclosure of the availability of all supportive data;
- uphold the standards of the Society that apply to the welfare of experimental procedures in animals, and the environment;
- refrain from making statements of professional judgment that are directly or potentially subject to conflict of interest concerns. Where a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest does arise, members should declare this to the Executive Committee via

the BTS Secretariat <u>bts@execbs.com</u> as soon as possible, and ensure that the conflict is managed appropriately, as determined by the Executive Committee;

- not gain materially or financially from the assets of the Society for any role they may hold within the Society unless permitted under the <u>Memorandum and Articles of</u> <u>Association of the BTS</u>;
- be encouraged to actively participate in the Society's activities and governance;
- not be entitled to represent or act on behalf of the Society, or to claim that they are representing the Society or having authority to act on behalf of the Society, unless specifically authorised to do so in writing. This means that Society members should not for example:
 - enter into any contracts in the Society's name; or
 - incur any financial or legal liability to any third parties on behalf of the Society; or
 - make any public statements on behalf of the Society without express authority from the Executive Committee.
- be encouraged to share their association with the Society in person and on social media and in doing so help the Society achieve its aims. However, in doing so, members should be mindful of this Code of Conduct in its entirety;
- be provided with information from time to time that is confidential to the Society. Members are required, when directed, not to disclose this information to a third party, until such times that the Executive Committee has, where and when appropriate, released the information to the public via the website and social media or when it is required to be disclosed by law or court order;
- be able to provide information to the Society which if regarded as confidential should be clearly marked as such. The Society will maintain confidentiality in any information clearly notified to it as confidential unless it is required to disclose it by law or court order.

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