

# INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT IN HIGH SCHOOLS: PAVING A WAY TO MISCONDUCT?

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- Sociologist in academic ethics since 2015
- In 2015-2016 lead of research project „Academic ethics at Mykolas Romeris University: experiences and perspectives“
- Member of „European Network for Academic Integrity“ (ENAI) project team
- Member of Academic Ethics Commission at Lithuanian Social Research Centre
- Publications on academic ethics



## LORETA TAUGINIENĖ

- Head of Academic Ethics Centre at Mykolas Romeris University & Researcher in Integrity Management at Vilnius University
- Chair of Working Group for Academic Integrity and Ethics under Lithuanian University Rectors' Conference
- Board Member of ENAI
- Editorial Board Member of *Journal of Academic Ethics*
- Publications on integrity management (namely research integrity)

# RESEARCH RELEVANCE

gaubtas 9 d., trečiadienis | Mirtis 22

Vaišų kursai | Horoskopai | TV programa | Reklama | Kor

**DELFI** Naujienos Nuomonės Verslas Mokslas Auto Sportas Vaidai Gyvenimas Agro Sveikata Maitis Stilius

Lietuvoje Užsienyje Kriminalai Jaunimas Tiesa Medicinos Karas Propaganda Temos Kultūra Muzikė Euronacija Idėja Lietuva NBA Moter

DELFI žinios > Dienos naujienos > Jaunimo sodas

## Įvertino mokinio nusipirktą darbą: kiekviename sakinyje – bent kelios klaidos (81)

 **Rūta Pukienė**  
Aktualijų žurnalista  
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Parasyti autorui

Jau kitą savaitę abiturientų laukia pirmasis atsiskaitymas – kalbėjimo įskaitos metu bus vertinamos jų lietuvių kalbos ir literatūros žinios. Deja, panašu, kad sąžiningumas yra užmirštas – viešojo erdvėje gausu skelbimų apie ieškomas pirkti ar parduodamas viešąsias kalbas.



# LITERATURE REVIEW

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## TEACHING STAFF

- Although teachers have understanding about dishonest behaviour and its types, they potentially underestimate the scale of integrity issues in high school (Evans & Craig, 1990; Crawshaw, 2015)
- Deficiencies in pedagogy and insufficient competences related to latest technologies may lead to tolerance (neutralization) of dishonest student behavior (Murdock et al. 2004; Sisti, 2007; Högberg, 2011)

## MANAGERIAL STAFF

- School administration is one of the stakeholders of integrity management (Dickerson, 2007) that forms teacher's role and professional prestige (Schab, 1991), **HOWEVER** administration does not position itself in a such role
- There is a need for clarity on school policy regarding bad practices while targeting the whole school community (McCabe et al., 2001; Sisti, 2007; Lai & Weeks, 2009; Williamson & McGregor, 2011)

# RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

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## DATA COLLECTION

- **Public gymnasiums located in Vilnius city (N=32)**
- **Publicly available policy documents (N=136)**
  - Statutes
  - Attendance regulations
  - Regulations on evaluation of progress and achievements
  - Rules of students' conduct
  - Regulations on bullying prevention and intervention
  - Rules for papers and other projects
  - ...

## DATA ANALYSIS

- Qualitative content analysis
- Documents analysed
  - Regulations on evaluation of progress and achievements
  - Rules of students' conduct (including codes of ethics and rules of internal order)
  - Rules for papers and other projects
  - Library rules (including rules on the use of computers and the internet)

# RESEARCH FINDINGS (I)

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## RULES OF STUDENTS' CONDUCT

- *Ethical behaviour* is associated with being intolerant towards immoral behaviour, behaving fairly and ethically, learning and completing assignments honestly and on time. Gymnasiums link *unethical behaviour* to the use of bad language, gambling, public exposure of close relationships, gum chewing, fighting and so on.
- School students are forbidden unauthorised use of mobile phones (including the calculator function), earphones, players and other technologies during classes; HOWEVER, usually this restraint is outlined without any specification on what it aims to.
- Documents mention clauses related to personal data protection; HOWEVER gymnasiums do not clearly state restraint to plagiarise, crib or cheat in other ways.

# RESEARCH FINDINGS (II)

## REGULATIONS ON EVALUATION OF PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Types of malpractices	N of gymnasiums
Overdue repeated assignment (e.g. test)	7
Unreasoned absence on test	4
Use of unacceptable help or means during tests	3
Cribbing	3
Overdue submission of a paper	1
Plagiarised paper	1
Dishonestly completed assignment	1

# RESEARCH FINDINGS (III)

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## RULES FOR PAPERS AND OTHER PROJECTS

- One third of gymnasiums have such rules approved; HOWEVER they lack coherence, e.g. some rules require providing a list of sources, but citation is not considered; or it is specified that in-text citation of pictures is compulsory whereas the same is not required for general in-text citation.
- Requirements are not directly linked to assessment criteria.

## LIBRARY RULES

- Libraries provide consultation regarding the search of literature needed; HOWEVER little attention is paid on how to properly use sources in terms of intellectual property rights.
- Rules of libraries mostly refer to potential losses caused by school students using printed materials or devices.
- Restraints in relation to the use of ICT: it is forbidden to install any software, use computers for gaming, watch movies, navigate on sites that induce negative effects, distribute viruses, hack, stimulate violence, etc.



# DISCUSSION

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- The structure of gymnasium websites is quite clear; however, no gymnasium has a separate section on integrity, and only single clauses mention how gymnasiums cope with integrity issues.
- School rules and regulations explicitly refer to legal liability regarding fighting, use of drugs or other psychotropic substances, but they do not refer to criminal liability imposed for misappropriation of authorship, or administrative liability imposed for contract cheating.

# DISCUSSION

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- The lack of (effective) integrity management inclines to dishonest behaviour in gymnasiums. As a rule, plagiarism and cribbing are matters between teacher and student, without the involvement of managerial staff.
- Solutions when ethical infringements occur differ between universities and high schools; however, endeavors for taking an educational approach are highly limited at both organizational settings. An educational approach ought to be continuous from high school to university.

# CONCLUSIONS

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- A position on integrity management is under development in Vilnius city gymnasiums
  - There is no clear division of responsibilities between members of school community, especially between administrative staff, teachers and students
  - There is no coherence in prevention and intervention of dishonest behaviour
- The lack of consistency in integrity management paves the way to malpractices in gymnasiums that, consequently, transcend to the university setting

FOR MORE DETAIL

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# Integrity Management in High Schools: Paving a Way to Misconduct?

by Loreta TAUGINIENĖ & Inga GAIŽAUSKAITĖ

(under peer review)

THANK YOU!  
ANY QUESTIONS? SUGGESTIONS?

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