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During the recent years, the number of educational programs for international student exchange has increased in Ukraine, and in the Bogomolets National Medical University (NMU) in particular. That is why, it is especially important to ensure that the knowledge acquired by NMU student and researcher meets international standards, the grades reflect the real level of students' knowledge, skills and abilities. Academic integrity is one of the most important factors in the success of university on the respective educational market. It ensures trust and support of stakeholders, sponsors, partners and future students.

To introduce sustainable academic integrity practice in the NMU that will meet international experience in the sphere, the Regulation "On academic integrity" (the Regulation) was approved in 2020 and the NMU started its implementation.

The Regulation was developed in accordance with the following legislative framework: the Constitution of Ukraine, the laws of Ukraine "On Education", "On Higher Education", "On Scientific and Technological Activity", "On Copyright and Related Rights", "On Publishing", Recommendations of the Ministry of Education on the prevention of academic plagiarism and its identification in scientific works, Code on Academic Integrity of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance, NMU Charter.

The Regulation defines the basic principles, concepts of compliance and violations of academic integrity, types of academic responsibility, establishes the procedure for bringing participants of the educational and scientific process to academic responsibility, regulates the creation of new mechanisms for building communications in the NMU and provides the framework to prevent violations of academic integrity (On academic integrity, 2020).

According to the Regulation, observance of academic integrity by scientific and scientific-pedagogical workers includes the following: provision of references to sources of information while using ideas, developments, statements, information from other persons; compliance with the legislation on copyright and related rights; provision of reliable information about research methods and results, sources of used information and own pedagogical (scientific-pedagogical, creative) activity; control over the observance of academic integrity by students in the educational process and scientific activity; objective assessment of learning results (On academic integrity, 2020).

At the same time, compliance with academic integrity by students envisages the following: independent performance of educational tasks, tasks of intermediate and final control; provision of references to sources of information while using ideas, developments, statements, information from other persons; compliance with the legislation on copyright and related rights; provision of reliable information about the results of their educational (scientific, creative) activities, used research methods and sources of information (On academic integrity, 2020).

The following materials are subject to an academic integrity check: dissertations manuscripts (and abstracts) of PhD and Doctor of Science degree holders, course and master's theses; manuscripts

of training manuals, textbooks, reference books, dictionaries and other types of educational products; monographs, scientific articles, methodological recommendations, newsletters and other types of scientific products.

The verification of compliance with the principles of academic integrity in the abovementioned works is carried out at the stage of preparation for consideration by the Commission on Bioethics and Ethics of Scientific Research using special software "StrikePlagiarism" (the Bogomolets National Medical University, (n.d.). This software is the leading tool for anti-plagiarism in Ukraine which uses database of NMU scientific sources for 14 years, provides access to both the inter-university database and internal repositories of universities (inc. 14 Ukrainian medical universities), conducts in the database, which includes scientific journals indexed in SCOPUS, EBSCO, SPRINGER (Matvian, 2023, 1:05).

At the same time, the automatic verification with such a software has its limitations and could not be the only basis for identification of academic plagiarism. For example, it is almost impossible to avoid a significant number of text repetitions when writing scientific papers in pharmaceutical disciplines that require the use of certain nomenclature, terminology, normative and technical documentation, monographs of the State Pharmacopoeia, standard methods and techniques in chemical, pharmaco-technological research, composition and technology development, synthesis of new medicinal products, which are similar in chemical structure, have certain physical and chemical properties, similar methods of production and quality control.

Verification of such scientific works for compliance with the principles of academic integrity requires engagement of experts that are familiar with the special standards, requirements and programs. Therefore, the departments of the Pharmaceutical Faculty of NMU appointed specialists responsible for the verification of scientific works. After additional verification by these specialists, the results of the verification are published, and students have 2 additional attempts to finalize their scientific works so that they are admitted to the Commission.

It is very important consider the opinion of a specialist who has experience in teaching and scientific research, knows the methodology of checks for academic plagiarism and is able make a final decision to accept or send a particular scientific work for revision.

Verification of scientific works is not the only measure NMU takes to ensure implementation of academic integrity principles. Various educational courses on academic integrity are provided at different educational levels in the NMU, such as the optional discipline "Academic Integrity and Basics of Scientific Research" for higher education students; a series of lectures "Responsibility of participants in the educational and scientific process for academic integrity" within the educational project "School of young master's students"; "Academic integrity and ethics of scientific research" for PhD degree holders.

Also, NMU academic community could discuss challenges in implementation of academic integrity principles and lessons learned during specialized webinars. For example, on February 23, 2023, webinar "Academic integrity and scientific research" gathered 450 participants, including students of various specialties, scientific and pedagogical specialists.

This complex of measures helped to raise awareness about participants of educational process and improve situation with academic integrity compliance in NMU. For example, in 2020, the first year of implementation of the automatic verification of scientific student works at the Department of pharmacy and industrial drug technology in NMU, only 30% of the works passed such verification successfully. In 2022, 92 % of students' scientific works were approved as a result of verification.

It should be noted that currently the draft Law "On Academic Integrity" is being developed by the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance (On Academic Integrity, 2022). On March 02, 2023, the presentation of the draft law has been held in cooperation with the Committee of the Parliament of Ukraine on Education, Science and Innovation (the National Agency for Higher Education

Quality Assurance, 2023). After discussions with stakeholders in the sphere, approval of such legislation should boost implementation of academic integrity principles in Ukrainian universities. And NMU will further improve its approaches in accordance with national legislative framework to ensure high level of academic integrity in our university.

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