



Statement on Ethics

[Adopted by ACA Council on April 28, 1996]

Members are expected to follow the highest ethical standards in their scientific activities and in their interactions with other colleagues. The scientific results of research should be made available to the community in an appropriate manner. It is the responsibility of all members to guard against misconduct. Special attention should be paid to the following:

1. All papers for which crystallographic structural results are part of the scientific content must have as one of the authors the crystallographer who did the work.
2. Every publication should list, as authors, all participants in that research who are able to defend part or all of the new scientific results. Authors must give proper credit to previous work done by others that is germane to the topic.
3. Crystallographic papers should contain atomic coordinates or an indication where they were deposited and how copies may be obtained. Because original data serve as the basis for the correctness of the scientific conclusions it is recommended that measured intensities or $F(\text{obs})$ values and their estimated standard deviations be deposited in an appropriate archive easily accessible to the community. Where a structure determination is not reported in a publication, the authors should arrange for the numerical information to be deposited in an appropriate database.
4. When reference is made to a coordinate set taken from a data bank, credit should be given to the original depositors. However it is sufficient to cite the data bank if the data are only being used for statistical purposes. When structural information that is not published in the open literature or is not deposited in a public data bank is to be used in a publication, permission for such use should be sought from the originator of the structural information.
5. Senior scientists should use the laboratory setting to ensure that those whom they supervise understand the values, ethical prescriptions, and institutional guidelines governing research.
6. Scientists must guard against conscious or unpremeditated lapses in ethics when reviewing papers and grant proposals.
7. Authors should not present the same paper, either orally or as a poster, if the paper has already been accepted and/or presented at another national or international scientific meeting.
8. None of the ACA ethical guidelines excludes or replaces ethical guidelines promulgated by other scientific organizations.