

CREATING A CULTURE OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: HIGHER EDUCATION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Assel Mukhametzhanova, Assiya Babayeva, Mariya Bekova
Nazarbayev University

Academic excellence, being one of the core principles of Nazarbayev University, underlies all programs and academic support mechanisms to enhance learning, encourage the highest level of scholarship and academic achievement, and prepare graduates for successful professional careers and lifelong learning. To achieve academic excellence the principles of academic integrity have to be ensured by all stakeholders. As a consequence, academic integrity is instilled in every Nazarbayev University alumni through the programs, procedures, processes and most of all through the culture. These principles guide their work in their careers.

In 2017-2018, a group of NU alumni led a national training program for STEM secondary school teachers within the trilingual education policy reform. The program design, content, assessment as well as teaching and learning processes were aligned with Nazarbayev University quality standards. Firstly, the program was reviewed and approved by the Academic Council. In 2018, the program successfully passed independent evaluation by British Council with all KPIs being met and 11 considered strengths.

Secondly, over 7,000 STEM teachers have been trained a variety of teaching approaches and principles which promote honest learning and enhance academic integrity. Post-course classroom observations demonstrated that the majority of program participants model the approaches and principles in their teaching routine.

Finally, academic integrity was also strongly disseminated through the assessment strategies. In this way, program participants could learn how to learn in an ethical and sustainable way and help Nazarbayev University promote / translate the culture of academic integrity further to secondary education.

Key words: academic integrity, academic standards, Nazarbayev University, translation of experience

Category: A case study