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## Oregon Council of Teachers of English (OCTE) Code of Ethics

**Adopted by OCTE June 30, 2009; Revised June 22, 2014**

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**POLICY:** Members of the Oregon Council of Teachers of English Executive Committee are committed to observing and promoting the highest standards of ethical conduct in the performance of their leadership and governance responsibilities. Executive Committee members pledge to accept this code as a minimum guideline for ethical conduct and embrace these principles and practices.

**PROCEDURES:**

**1. Principles of Accountability:** 1) Faithfully abide by the constitution, by-laws, and policies of the Oregon Council of Teachers of English 2) Exercise reasonable care, good faith, and due diligence in organizational affairs; 3) Fully disclose, at the earliest opportunity, information that may result in a perceived or actual conflict of interest, in accordance with the Oregon Council of Teachers of English conflict of interest policy; 4) Fully disclose, at the earliest opportunity, all information and insights that would have significance in Executive Committee decision-making; 5) Remain accountable for prudent fiscal management to OCTE members, colleagues in our broader professional community, and to government and funding bodies.

**2. Principles of Professional Excellence:** 1) Maintain a professional level of courtesy, respect, and objectivity in all OCTE Executive Committee activities. This includes acknowledging differences of opinion, providing for open and honest discussion, and making decisions only after hearing all points of view and considering all relevant data; 2) Maintain knowledge of OCTE positions and guidelines and endeavor to advance or explain them to a range of audiences. Avoid allowing leadership roles in the Oregon Council of Teachers of English to be associated with political statements or public policy views that don't align with those officially adopted by the Oregon Council of Teachers of English; 3) Support and encourage membership and participation in all OCTE and NCTE programs, publications, and resources.

**3. Principles of Fiduciary Responsibility and Confidentiality:** 1) Make decisions for the good of all members of the Oregon Council of Teachers of English rather than for his or her personal benefit, or that of the constituency he or she associates with; 2) Respect the confidentiality of sensitive information known through service to the Oregon Council of Teachers of English.

**4. Equal Opportunity and Diversity:** Ensure the right of all OCTE members to appropriate and effective services and leadership opportunities without discrimination on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, national origin, race, religion, age, political affiliation, or disability, in accordance with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements.