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Topic: Law and regulation in public health nutrition

Title: Conflicts of interest in Food and Nutrition within the university: sharing the experience of a workshop in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Presentation Type: Oral

This abstract describes the experience of the workshop "conflicts of interest (COI) within the university". This activity was organized by the Brazilian Front for the Public-private Relationship Regulation in Food and Nutrition – F&N (FRRPAN). Its objective was to promote the reflection on COI in public-private relationship within the university and to raise ideas for a proposal for a code of conduct directed to Nutrition courses. The workshop, held in August 2014, was addressed to academics from Nutrition courses of public universities located in the state of Rio de Janeiro. It lasted one day and included a round table, group activities and plenary. The roundtable presented reflections on COI experienced in F&N and health innovation. In group activities, using World Café methodology, participants discussed potentially conflicting situations regarding: research; training; scientific events; and entities' funding. The discussion of each topic began with the presentation of situations on which participants should indicate: in which ones they thought there was COI and why; about which ones they had doubts and why; and if they had experienced that situation or knew other cases. There was controversy on the recognition of COI in various situations discussed and many questions on the subject, indicating the need for further debate. At the plenary ideas for a code of conduct for Universities were raised. Among the items to be included were cited: ethical principles, the concept of COI, establishing rules for specific situations and discussion forums for situations not covered in the code, among others.