

Integrity and Conflict of Interests: An Ethical Perspective on the Researcher's Responsibility

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Presentation's Plan

2. The knowledge development process
4. The context of knowledge transfer (valorization)
6. The ethics of valorization

1. The knowledge development process

A three-step process by which a new knowledge is developed and acquired

1.1 The first step – the identification of a question or a problem

- Usually of scientific, economic, social or cultural interest
- Should also be of enough high personal interest to be retained
- Might involve a peer-review process to assure its scientificity
- Might need to go through a Research Ethics Board, an Animal Deontology Committee, an Environmental Evaluation Committee or a Biosecurity Committee.

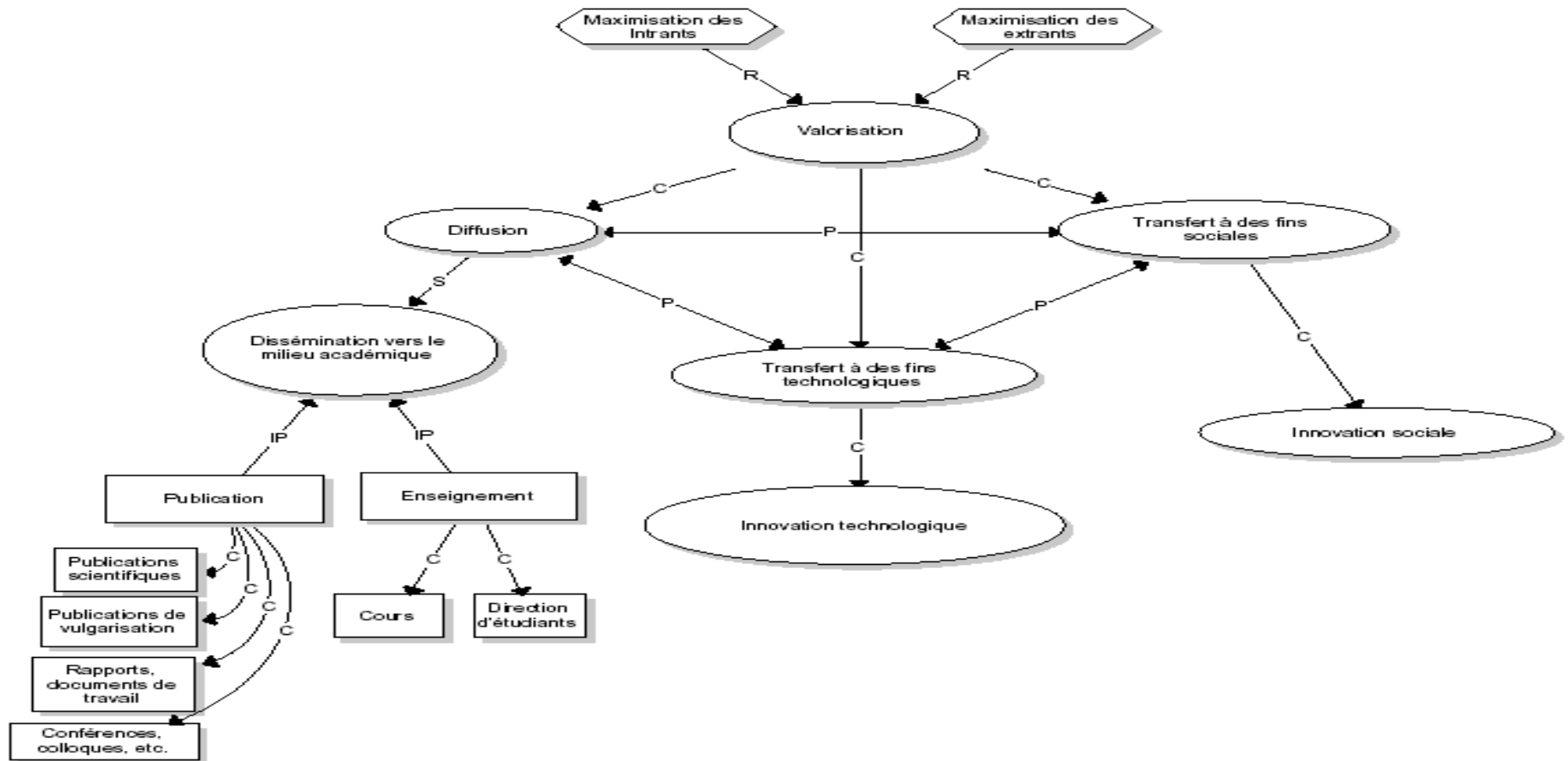
1. The knowledge development process

1.2 The second step – the realization of the research project:

- Goes from the literature search to the new knowledge
- Integrity is a key issue for confidence of the public and future users
- Continuing ethics review or deontological follow-up might be required

1.3 The third step – the valorization of the research results:

- A process by which a developed knowledge is transferred from producers to users while adding value to the research results.



2. The context of valorization

2 paradigms with hybrids:

- Knowledge economy
- Knowledge society

2.1 The knowledge economy:

- Developed by OECD
- Based on the development of the private sector
- Knowledge as a commodity

2. The context of valorization

2.2 The knowledge society:

- Developed by UNESCO
- Based on a balanced development of societies
- Knowledge as a source for social improvement

3. The ethics of valorization

A few comments to conclude:

- A knowledge development process is not complete until its results are valorized
- Integrity is required from the first step of it through the end.
 - Integrity and the self
 - Integrity and the others
 - Integrity in context

3. The ethics of valorization

A few comments to conclude:

➤ Conflict of interests and conflict of values

➤ Interests into play:

- Scientific, economic, social or cultural
- Personal
- Users (individuals or groups)

➤ Values into play:

- Personal
- Scientific or professional
- Linked to the context

When conflicting, ethical deliberation might be
required

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