

August 6, 2009 – Outside Interests Committee Procedure: Conflict of Interest for OIC Members.

Conflict of interest for OIC members

The Outside Interests Committee is charged with approaching the review of outside financial interests and identified conflicts of interest with the highest degree of objectivity. There may be instances when a member of the Committee, or an individual to whom the Committee member reports, has a relationship with individuals or external entities undergoing review, such that there could be the appearance of a conflict of interest for that Committee member with a discussion topic, email vote or other communication.

Members must abide by the following procedures governing conflicts of interest pertaining to discussion topics at a convened meeting, email votes or other communication process:

An OIC member is considered to have a conflict of interest if:

1. He or she is
 - a. an individual whose outside financial interests under review by the OIC, or
 - b. supervising or is supervised by an individual whose outside financial interests are under review by the OIC, or
 - c. a family member or domestic partner of someone named whose outside financial interests are under review by the OIC.

2. He or she
 - a. has a financial interest, or
 - b. is an officer (e.g., scientific advisor or Board member) of an outside entity under discussion by the Committee in relation to an identified conflict of interest, or
 - c. he or she supervises or is supervised by or is a family member or domestic partner of an officer or employee of an outside entity under discussion by the Committee in relation to an identified conflict of interest.

3. He or she and/or a majority of the OIC members believe(s) that other circumstances constitute a conflict of interest.

If such a conflict of interest arises, the conflicted member must inform the Chair of said conflict. The conflicted member may be present to answer questions during the initial convened Committee discussion, but must leave the room for final discussion and vote. In the case of an email vote, the conflicted member must recuse him/herself from voting.