



individuals and their spouses or other dependents must not be current employees or students of the University; and b) recuse from the deliberations of the Committee any ETSU member of the Committee who has been involved in the negotiation, approval, or implementation of the relationship that is the basis of the actual or perceived conflict of interest. The general public members of the Committee should be individuals that have sufficient education or experience to understand both the issues before the Committee and the possible impacts of the Committees decisions on the general public.

Arrangements for plan implementation and oversight shall explicitly be part of an institutional conflict management plan. Implementation and oversight will usually be the joint responsibility of the submitting unit and the Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Sponsored Programs. However, other arrangements shall be made for plan implementation and oversight if, in the judgment of the Academic Freedom and Faculty Ethics Committee, such arrangements are necessary for the effective management of the conflict.

[Back to Top](#)

### **III. Human Subjects Research**

The University will pay special attention to potential institutional conflicts of interest involving human subjects to ensure that the welfare of subjects is protected. Any financial interest of the University or the Research Foundation must be disclosed at the time of submission of the clinical study for initial review by the ETSU Institutional Review Board (IRB). The VPR will assess the potential conflict of interest, develop a plan to manage the conflict and refer to the Academic Freedom and Faculty Ethics Committee for review and approval. Any interest of the University must be disclosed during the informed consent process to any human research participant with oversight by the ETSU IRB. The ETSU IRB must review and approve any management plan prior to approval of the clinical study.

[Back to Top](#)

### **IV. Excluded Relationships**

A relationship with a profit making organization for the purposes of this institutional conflict of interest policy shall not include ordinary investments of the university's endowment that are managed by the Board of Directors of the ETSU Foundation or ordinary client-vendor relationships where the University contracts for specific goods or services from a profit-making organization.

[Back to Top](#)

---

Original effective date: November 30, 2007

Revised: February 28, 2011

Last review: