

Standing Committee Annual Report 2020-2021

Name of Committee or Council: Conflict of Interest Committee

Chair: Jenny Harris

Meeting Dates in Current Year: Met via e-mail with committee: April 2021;
Communicated with University President: May 2021

Committee members:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Service Term</u>
Jenny Harris	Faculty, Library	Research and Instruction	2019-2022
McLean Fahnestock	Faculty, CoAL	Art and Design	2020-2023
Xin Zhang	Faculty, CoB	Business	2018-2021
Paul Nicodemus	Faculty, CoBHS	Psychological Science and Counseling	2018-2021
Andriy Kovalskiy	Faculty, CoSTEM	Physics, Engineering and Astronomy	2018-2021
Bing Xiao	Faculty, CoE	Teaching and Learning	2018-2021
Pam Gray	Faculty, Graduate	Communication	2020-2023
Jessica D'Alimonte	Staff, Academic Affairs	College of Business, Dean's Office	2018-2021
Costin Shamble	University Attorney	General Counsel	<i>ex officio</i>
Blayne Clements	Chief Audit Officer	Internal Audit	<i>ex officio</i>

Major Actions or Accomplishments:

- During the 2020-2021 academic year, the University operated in an online capacity; therefore, the Conflict of Interest Committee did not meet in person.
- In December 2020, Jenny Harris (Chair) reached out to the former chair of the committee, Talon Beeson, to ask questions regarding how often he was made aware of potential conflicts of interest and by whom. Professor Beeson was very helpful in providing input regarding his experience as chair.
- The committee only had one potential conflict of interest to review for the academic year, which was brought to the committee chair's attention in early April 2021.
 - Dr. Tom O'Connor from the Department of Criminal Justice notified the committee chair that he planned to adopt his own textbook, along with another book, for his CRJ 4125 - Intelligence Analysis course, to be taught during Fall 2021.
 - The book is an eBook published by Kendall Hunt. Dr. O'Connor did not/will not receive any royalties or stand to benefit financially from the use of the book.

- The COI disclosure was then shared with the committee members via e-mail, along with the Conflict of Interest Policy (1:001) and University Policy 2:016 – Adoption of Textbooks and Ancillary Course Materials.
- Committee members were asked to review the disclosure, then vote and provide comments via a Qualtrics survey. Four out of seven voting members of the committee completed the survey and unanimously voted that there was no conflict of interest and no need to discuss further.
- The committee chair then e-mailed the recommendation to President Licari for the final decision (see attached).
- No other business occurred during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Harris
Education Librarian/Assistant Professor
Chair – Conflict of Interest Committee
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