



Vice Chancellor of Research

300 W. 12th Street | 202 Centennial Hall | Rolla, MO 65409
573-341-4134 | research@mst.edu

Conflict of Interest Policy for Student Engagement in Faculty Enterprises

The Conflict of interest (COI) Committee determines whether a faculty member has a conflict regarding student engagement in an enterprise in which the faculty member has an outside interest as defined in the University's Collected Rules and Regulations (CRR 330.015 B2). Given the diversity of faculty activities and potential student engagement, the COI Committee may determine:

- a. the conflict is manageable; or
- b. the conflict is manageable only through a Student Monitoring Plan and appointment of a COI Student Monitor; or
- c. the conflict is not manageable and the faculty member may not engage the student.

If a Student Monitoring Plan is implemented,

- a. A COI Student Monitor will be appointed by the COI Committee. Monitors should be disinterested parties relative to the faculty member's outside interest and preferably a faculty member at or above the rank of the faculty member with the conflict of interest. A dean or associate dean are likely appointees.
- b. COI Student Monitors will have access to the faculty COI Management Plan that includes recommendations for student monitoring as well as information regarding the role of the student in the company.
- c. The COI Student Monitor will meet with the assigned student upon student request, and must meet, at minimum, annually and upload or submit the COI Student Monitor's Report to the COI office. These reports will be reviewed by the COI Committee to ensure the student's education/academic interest is upheld as "primary."
 - i. "Primary" indicates the student is making the expected progress on their degree, without being unduly compromised or biased by their industry affiliation/responsibilities, and can openly discuss and publish their work without retribution or unnecessary delay.
 - ii. COI Student Monitor Reports will be available on the COI website at <https://coi.mst.edu/>.

Concerns regarding student academic progress/success identified by the Student Monitor and/or COI Committee will be addressed with the faculty member and may result in removal of the student from the enterprise. Failure of the faculty member to remedy concerns expressed by the COI Committee to adequately protect the academic interest of students could lead to charges of faculty irresponsibility (CRR 300.010 L) and/or violations of standards of faculty conduct (CRR 330.110 D2) for failure to meet their responsibility as a "teacher" as defined in CRR 300.010 C2a.