

**University of Delaware College of Engineering
Conflict of Interest (COI) Student/Scholar Awareness Document**

In the course of reviewing conflict of interest disclosures, the College of Engineering (COE) is sometimes confronted with the issue of students (which include undergraduate, graduate, professional, and non-degree seeking) and post-doctoral scholars involved in businesses or companies in which faculty have an outside interest. A potential conflict may exist for the faculty member with an outside interest, if they also are responsible for the academic success of the student. This is particularly so if the faculty member has the student in a class or is the student/scholar research advisor. In addition, to mitigate additional conflicts that could have an impact on the student’s ability to complete their degree, they cannot have more than one conflicted faculty member on their thesis or dissertation committee.

The COE has determined that the faculty member listed below has reported a conflict of interest involving a student that requires a Student/Scholar Monitoring Plan as part of the faculty member’s COI management plan. A COI Student/Scholar Monitor has been appointed to monitor the academic pursuits of the student. As part of the Student/Scholar Monitoring Plan, all parties (i.e., student/scholar, faculty, and COI Monitor) must acknowledge and agree that the academic pursuits of the student are primary while they are engaged in the faculty enterprise.

Students and scholars involved in an industry in which a faculty member has an outside interest:

- a. May withdraw from the business arrangement at any time without bias, harassment, or negative impact on their academic success.
- b. May change advisor and/or topic areas or research direction free from industry influence or pressures outside the realm of scientific appropriateness and personal choice.
- c. Will not have their field of research involuntarily and significantly narrowed or limited as a result of involvement with the private sector
- d. Will not experience any unnecessary increase in time to completion of their degree.
- e. Must not be inhibited from freely sharing their work with others or publication of their work, particularly the thesis/dissertation.

We acknowledge and understand the limitations for student/scholar involvement in enterprises in which faculty have outside interest.

Graduate students and post-doctoral scholars have the right to contact the College of Engineering if they feel that any of the standards outlined in this document are not being followed.

Student/Scholar Signature and Date

Print Name

Faculty Signature and Date

Print Name

COI Student/Scholar Monitor Signature and Date

Print Name