

Conflict of Interest Guidelines

1. Conflict of Interest Guidelines for the selection of External Examiners for Defences

Conflicts of interest should be managed in an open and transparent manner. Graduate faculty members are responsible for identifying and addressing real or apparent conflicts of interest in their programs, bringing these to the attention of the faculty involved and/or the program director.

An external examiner is considered to be in a conflict of interest *vis-à-vis* examination of a thesis or dissertation if the supervisor or someone on the committee is:

- a close friend;
- a relative;
- a current research collaborator, co-author or co-editor (within past 5 years);
- an institutional colleague;
- a former thesis supervisor or mentor;
- a student previously under the member's supervision (within last 10 years);
- a person with whom the member is involved in a dispute;
- a person with whom the member is involved in a research partnership;
- an industrial, government or non-governmental (NGO) representative directly involved in collaborative activities with the supervisor.

2. Conflict of Interest Guidelines for participation on Scholarship Committees:

Faculty may serve on scholarship committees if they have students applying for these scholarships. If the Chair of the committee or one of its members perceives there to be a conflict, they should raise this within the committee.

Approved by the Graduate Studies Committee: November 25, 2011