



OFFICE OF RESEARCH

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Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

IACUC Conflict of Interest

PURPOSE - The purpose of this policy and procedure is to identify and manage Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) member conflict of interest in reviewing protocols.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION - This policy provides assurance that the personal and financial interests of IACUC members do not compromise their research review activities for Texas Southern University.

Definitions

A *conflict of interest* involves any situation in which an IACUC member or consultant has any significant personal or financial interest in the proposed research or clinical investigation.

Significant personal interest includes an individual or immediate family member involved in the design, conduct, or reporting of the research protocol, an interest that the IACUC member or consultant believes conflicts with his/her ability to objectively review a protocol.

Significant financial interest is anything of monetary value, including, salary or other payments for services; equity interests with the sponsor; a proprietary interest in the research such as a patent, trademark, copyright, or licensing agreements including royalties from such rights; a position as an executive director or director of the agency or company sponsoring the research regardless of the amount of compensation; or any compensation that could be affected by the outcome of the research regardless of the amount of compensation.

RESPONSIBILITY - The parties responsible for implementing this policy and procedure include the following: Department of Research Enhancement and Compliance Services (DRECS) Director/Staff, IACUC Chair, IACUC Members, and IACUC Consultants.

PROCEDURES

1. Each year, the DRECS staff requests all IACUC members to disclose their conflicts of interest.
2. No IACUC member may participate in review of any research project, including study updates and submissions, in which the member has a conflict of interest, except to provide information as requested.
3. It is the responsibility of each member of IACUC to disclose any conflict of interest prior to conducting a review and to excuse themselves from deliberations and voting.
4. DRECS staff document all conflict of interest disclosures in the IACUC meeting minutes.

REFERENCE

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare. *Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Guidebook. 2nd Edition. 2002.*