

POLICY 2.29 – Investigator-Vendor Conflict of Interest

Policy Category:	Financial
Subject:	Investigator-Vendor Conflict of Interest
Approving Authority:	Board of Governors
Responsible Officer:	Vice-President (Operations & Finance)
Responsible Office:	Financial Services
Related Procedures:	Procedures Related to Investigator- Vendor Conflict of Interest Procedures Related to Procurement of Materials and Services
Related University Policies:	Policy 2.8 - Procurement of Materials and Services Policy 3.4 - Conflicts of Interest
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As members of the University community become increasingly engaged in technology transfer and commercialization of intellectual property based on past research, the possibility of future conflicts of interests arises.

Research at the leading edges of a discipline requires state-of-the-art technology. Increasingly, the best technology is derived from university based research, marketed by companies with licensing agreements or through start-up companies. On occasion, proposals to agencies will include plans for purchase of equipment or other infrastructure that may be provided by such companies which can lead to a potential conflict of interest when the decision of which company to purchase from is made.

The Principles and Procedures listed in this policy are intended to make the best possible procurement decision in light of the potential for conflict of interest.

- 1.00 The tendering of goods and services must follow procedures established by Procurement Services (see Item 1.00 in Procedures).
- 2.00 The individual(s) that are in potential conflict can, if they are part of the funded investigator team, participate in the description of specifications and evaluation criteria in tendering process. However, these individual(s) cannot be the only individuals involved.
- 3.00 The individual(s) that are in potential conflict cannot participate in the decision making process following the tendering process.

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- 4.00 The objective of the proposed research must not be compromised by the procurement decision. In other words, the infrastructure must be purchased from a vendor that can meet the specifications that will allow the research program to proceed in a timely and effective manner, even if the vendor is in a conflict of interest position.