

Memorandum

Date: November 6, 2025

To: Roberta Lavin, Faculty Senate President
Faculty Senate Operations Committee

From: Nancy D. Middlebrook, University Secretary



Re: Request Faculty Senate Approval of Proposed Revision to *Faculty Handbook* Policy E110
“Conflict of Interest in Research”

The UNM Conflict of Interest Offices and the Offices of the Vice President for Research recommended changes to *Faculty Handbook* Policy E110 “Conflict of Interest in Research” to comply with new federal and state regulations. The Faculty Senate Research Policy Committee (FSRPC) and Faculty Senate Policy Committee (FSPC) reviewed the recommendations and made changes where appropriate. Below is a summary of the proposed changes:

- Indicates that Conflict of Interest (COI) disclosure is also required when there is an appearance of COI and/or a conflict of commitment.
- Clarifies disclosure requirements and procedures and impacts on research expenditures.
- Clarifies the role of COI Committee(s) and their interaction with the UNM COI Offices.
- Clarifies existing options for management of COI and provides additional options.
- Adds definitions for:
 - Financial Conflict of Interest
 - Conflict of Commitment
 - Conflict Management
 - Reporting of Research
 - Clarifies the definition of Significant Financial Interest

The FSPC sent the proposed revision out for campus review and comment. One comment was received which objected to some of the federally required changes. Since the policy must comply with federal and state regulations no changes were made in response to the comment. The FSPC approved the attached proposed revision (with changes highlighted) to go forward to the Faculty Senate for approval. The FSPC or the FSRPC would be happy to have a member at the Faculty Senate meeting to answer questions or concerns. If approved by the Faculty Senate, the policy will be forwarded to President Stokes for final approval. Thank you for this opportunity to work collaboratively with you on this important policy.

Attachment:

Proposed revised draft E110 “Conflict of Interest in Research” dated 10/22/25

cc: Eve L Espey, Chair, Faculty Senate Policy Committee
Karen Patterson, Vice Chair, Faculty Senate Policy Committee
Tito Busani, Chair Faculty Senate Research Policy Committee