

**Policy Name:** Research Relationships with Outside Entities  
**Approval Authority:** Provost and University Vice President  
**Responsible Executive:** Executive Director, Office of Sponsored Research  
**Responsible Office:** Office of Sponsored Research  
**Effective Date:** October 2009

### 1. Statement

This Policy provides guidance and establishes requirements to faculty and staff when considering research relationships with outside entities, i.e., those organizations that are not part of the Stevens' organization, are separately incorporated, or operate and represent themselves as independent entities.

### 2. Reason/Purpose for the Statement

It may be the case that Stevens' personnel who have outside affiliations with business or industry have an opportunity to carry out research activities in a non-Stevens' environment. These activities are sometimes constrained by regulation (such as restriction on participation in certain federal research programs while holding a Stevens' appointment) and sometimes by practice (such as requiring intellectual property disclosures to be submitted to Stevens for determination whether Stevens has a [partial] ownership interest in the disclosed technology). Often, however the issue may be one of a real or perceived conflict.

### 3. Policy Applies To

Stevens' faculty and staff

### 4. Related Documents

"Conflict of Interest"

"Financial Irregularities"

### 5. Contacts

Office of Sponsored Research

### 6. Principles

To avoid a real or perceived conflict of interest between the performance of research at Stevens and any contractual or other obligation(s) or relationship(s) to an outside entity, a faculty member may NOT:

- Serve as principal investigator on a research project awarded to an outside entity while retaining a full-time or part-time faculty appointment at Stevens without written approval in advance from the appropriate academic dean
- Use students at Stevens for research and development projects for the outside entity unless this result from a formal contract between the entity and Stevens
- Employ students at the outside entity without written approval in advance by the appropriate academic dean (if the student is a foreign national, all such employment must adhere to the restrictions/specifications of the student's visa)
- Restrict or delay access to information from Stevens' research
- Write research proposals on behalf of an outside entity (whether or not serving as the principal investigator) without written approval in advance by the appropriate academic dean
- Take direct or indirect research support from the outside entity in order to support the faculty member's institutional research activities
- Negotiate separate intellectual property agreements with an outside entity that do not include the appropriate Stevens administrative office(s) for intellectual property developed in whole or in part at Stevens