

Motion Approved by GPC 11-7-11. Revised and Approved by GPC 2-27-12. Approved with Edits by Steering Committee.

Revised Conflict of Interest Policy for Graduate Bulletin:

**A supervisory committee's judgments on the quality of a student's thesis or dissertation should be based solely on the academic merits of the work before them. Any other standard risks a breach of professional ethics or policy and undermines the integrity of the process and those involved. Any personal or financial relationships (e.g. involving the major professor, committee members, and/or student) that may create the perception of bias in that process must be avoided. This would not include the typical practice of hiring a student on a university assistantship in the home unit, but would for example include the student being hired by the major professor's private company. If any such conflicts of interest could exist, they should be reported to the administrative head of the student's academic unit, who will evaluate same for potential harm and take appropriate action.**