

ACTION ITEM #1

Proposed Revisions to Board of Regents Conflict of Interest Policy (BOR1) (Kirk Schulz/Danielle Hess)

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

SUBJECT: Proposed Revisions to the Board of Regents Conflict of Interest Policy (BOR1)

PROPOSED: That the Board of Regents approve proposed revisions to the Board of Regents Conflict of Interest Policy (BOR1)

SUBMITTED BY: Kirk Schulz, President

**SUPPORTING
INFORMATION:**

In 2016, the Board approved the Board of Regents Conflict of Interest Policy (BOR1). The policy requires Board members to (1) annually certify that they filed a financial disclosure form with the Public Disclosure Commission and that they will comply with the Conflict of Interest Policy, and (2) disclose potential conflicts and recuse themselves from participation in matters that involve a conflict of interest. The policy cites the Washington State Ethics in Public Service Act, RCW 42.52, and sets forth several specific prohibitions and conflict of interest procedures required by statute.

The policy states that it is not a conflict of interest for the student regent to participate in or vote on matters of general interest to WSU students. With the addition of a faculty regent in 2022, we propose adding similar language stating it is not a conflict of interest for the faculty regent to participate in or vote on matters of general interest to WSU faculty. Also, student and faculty regents are prohibited by statute from participating in or voting on matters related to the hiring, discipline, or tenure of specific faculty members (and other personnel, for the student regent). Because this statutory language relates to conflict of interest, we propose adding it to the policy.

Other updates include adding references to the new University Ethics Policy (EP45), adding language mirroring the University Ethics Policy in places, and including WSU's Ethics Compliance Advisor as a resource.

ATTACHMENT: A redline version of the policy with the proposed changes is attached.