



STUDENT AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Adopted August 28, 2011

The mission of the Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA) is to enhance the veterinary profession, to educate the public, and to promote contact and exchange of ideas between veterinary students, veterinarians and the parent organization, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). The integrity of SAVMA, and the activities it undertakes, depends on the avoidance of conflicts of interest, or even the appearance of such conflicts, by the individuals involved in those activities.

At the same time, SAVMA recognizes that its leaders and members have significant professional, business and personal interests and relationships. Therefore, SAVMA has determined that the most appropriate manner in which to address actual, potential or apparent conflicts of interest is initially through liberal disclosure of any relationship or interest which might be construed as resulting in such a conflict. Disclosure under this Policy should not be construed as creating a presumption of impropriety or as automatically precluding someone from participating in a SAVMA activity or decision-making process. Rather, it reflects SAVMA's recognition of the many factors that can influence one's judgment and a desire to make as much information as possible available to other participants in SAVMA-related matters.

Any individual involved in a SAVMA activity or decision-making process has an obligation to disclose any conflicting or potentially conflicting personal, professional or business interest he or she may have, directly or indirectly, with the affected activity or decision. Potentially conflicting interests may relate to SAVMA's programs and services (e.g., advocacy activities) or its operations (e.g., contracts with third parties).

In particular, participants in SAVMA-related activities are obligated to disclose the positions they hold with other organizations or entities that may conflict, directly or indirectly, with their SAVMA activities. They also have an obligation to disclose any significant financial interest in, or other relationship with, an entity having a "commercial interest" in the activity. A commercial interest may exist not only where the entity's products or services are under consideration by SAVMA, but also where the entity's products or services are in competition or potential competition with those under consideration. By the disclosure of such interests, other participants will have the opportunity to take potential biases into consideration. In addition, the Executive Board or its designee(s) will be in a better position to determine whether the participant may have an interest in conflict with the interests of SAVMA.

Although SAVMA primarily is concerned with potential conflicts of interest involving those individuals participating directly in SAVMA-related activities, potential conflicts of interest also may arise if an individual with whom the participant directly shares income has an

interest in the activity or matter under consideration. As a result, participants should disclose not only their own interests or relationships but also those of their spouse or minor children, as well as interests or relationships held by others that may affect their decision-making, but only to the extent they are aware of such information.

Integral to the implementation of the Conflict of Interest Policy is the SAVMA Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form, which is considered a part of the Conflict of Interest Policy and must be submitted and updated annually by any individual participating in an SAVMA activity. Participants remain under a continuing obligation, however, to report actual, potential or apparent conflicts as they arise, including those that were not reported on the Disclosure Form, but which later become relevant to an SAVMA activity in which they are involved.

All participants in SAVMA-related activities must comply with the SAVMA Conflict of Interest Policy. In general, participants should err on the side of disclosure if in doubt as to whether it is required under the Policy. It is the responsibility of the disinterested members of the Board or its designees (or of the affected decision-making body in question with guidance from the Board) to interpret and apply the Policy. Specifically, subject to the procedures set forth herein, the Board or its designee(s) may require any action they deem appropriate, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Disclosure of the interest to the other participants in the decision- or policy-making body (e.g., board, committee, editorial board).
- (2) Written and, in some cases, oral disclosure of the interest (e.g., to an audience at an educational session).
- (3) Recusal from voting on a matter and limitation of the individual's participation only to the provision of factual information of benefit to the group discussion.
- (4) Complete recusal from consideration of the subject matter, including, but not limited to, not participating in that portion of a meeting in which the subject matter is to be discussed.
- (5) Replacement of the individual in the affected position or activity.

In most instances, disclosure of the conflicting or potentially conflicting interest will itself suffice to protect SAVMA's interests. In situations where such disclosure does not adequately deal with actual or potential problems, however, additional action, including denial of participation in the affected activity or consideration of the matter, may be necessary. In any event, inasmuch as the Policy is stated in general terms, the Executive Board or its designee(s) should use their best judgment in interpreting and applying the Policy. The SAVMA Advisor is designated Conflicts Administrator for purposes of facilitating implementation of this Policy.

SAVMA—Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form

NAME:

Please answer the following questions or provide substantially the same information in some other form (e.g. by attaching a vita). Only report those relationships or interests that reasonably involve the interests of SAVMA or the profession. If you have no information to list in response to a specific question, answer "None."

1. Relationship with Other Organizations/Entities

Please list any current or prospective leadership role in, or other relationship with, any other association, society or foundation (e.g., board member, committee member, advisor, contributor).

2. Employment, Consulting, and Honoraria

Please list any current or prospective employment or consulting arrangements, or honoraria or payments of more than \$5,000.00 per year or \$10,000.00 over a three-year period, that are current, prospective or have occurred within the past three (3) years.

3. Ownership Interests

Please list any material ownership interests you, or anyone with whom you directly share income, hold in a commercial entity that reasonably may be anticipated to conflict with the interests of SAVMA. Do not report dollar amounts or percentages. Ownership interests include stock options but exclude indirect investments through mutual funds and the like in a company the stock of which is not publicly traded. Ownership interests also include interests in excess of \$50,000.00 in companies that are publicly traded.

I represent that I have read, understand and agree to the terms of the SAVMA Conflict of Interest Policy. I am not aware of any other personal or professional position(s) or interest(s) or activities in which I am, or am about to be, engaged that reasonably may be anticipated to conflict with the interests of SAVMA. I further represent that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information reported above is complete and accurate.

Signature:

Date:

NOTE: If this is completed electronically—By typing your name you agree that this is valid as your signature.