

Report of the Institutional COI Committee

The Institutional COI Committee (ICOIC) began its work in December. Since then it has had seven meetings. Our reading and deliberations have centered on how to relate relevant AAUP principles to potential conflicts of interest that may arise from ownership in licensed intellectual property and private donations. At present, we have integrated AAUP guidelines with existing University Policy 4003 governing the research, development and patenting of intellectual property. The revised document is now being circulated to appropriate deans and administrators for their approval. Once this level of review is completed, the Institutional COI Committee will bring the policy to the Faculty Senate, asking for its approval. At present, ICOIC is discussing AAUP general principles governing a university's reception of gifts from private donors. The primary issue we are addressing is how to reconcile a donor's right to privacy with a faculty's need for sufficient information about gift agreements to guarantee their academic integrity. We plan to make a final report to the Senate in Fall, 2017.