

Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine (VTCSOM)

Policy: Faculty Conflict of Interest in Student Assessment or Promotion
Subject: Faculty Affairs
Administrator: D. Musick
Rev.: 2
Original Date: 8/1/2010
Revision Dates: 6/16/2017

1 Policy

Occasions may arise in which a faculty member has direct supervision over a student in matters of assessment (grades) and/or promotion and in which there may be a potential conflict of interest in this role. The conflict may arise as a consequence of any of a number of situations such as:

- a. The student may be a relative through lineage, marriage, or other relationships.
- b. The student may have a close personal relationship through settings such as places of worship, civic organization, sports, recreation, or other social settings.
- c. The student may be a patient in the practice of a clinical faculty member.
- d. Other relationships identified by the faculty member or student.

The nature of the conflict need not be disclosed. When such a conflict is recognized by the faculty member, it is the responsibility of the faculty member to notify the VTCSOM Office of Faculty Affairs. The most likely course would be to modify the student schedule in order to avoid the situation in which the faculty member would be in a position to assess (grade) or act to promote the student. The same action, modification of the student schedule, would occur if the student identifies a conflict whether the faculty member also identifies the conflict or not.