Conflict of Interest Statement for Members of Committees Awarding Fellowships, Grants, and Prizes

The goal of these guidelines is to insure fairness and objectivity and to avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest in the process of evaluating fellowships, grants, and prizes. A conflict of interest is a conflict between a person’s duties and responsibilities with regard to the review process, and that person’s private or professional interests. In addition to the situations here described, committee members should exercise their best judgment and discuss any concerns with the chair of the committee.

If the committee member is the current or recent (within 6 years) advisor of a student applicant; has written a letter of reference; is a close relative, partner, or former partner of the applicant; is a current member of the team making the application; is a recent (within 6 years) co-author with the applicant; or is a member of the editorial board of the relevant press: the committee member will abstain from evaluating the application or nomination in question but will evaluate the other applications or nominations. If application or nomination in question becomes a finalist, the committee member will not participate in the final decision.

If a committee member is the PI or co-PI on the application, he or she will immediately inform the chair and the president, who will replace the applicant with a temporary committee appointment for the purposes of awarding the grant or prize.

Approved by the Governing Board on January 4, 2018.