

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

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January 28, 2014

David Heath
Senior Reporter
The Center for Public Integrity
910 17th St. NW, 7th floor
Washington, DC 20006
dheath@publicintegrity.org

Re: FOIA Request 14-043

Dear Mr. Heath:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request dated and received in my office on January 27, 2014, in which you requested:

“I am requesting all documents of researchers at the School of Public Health with significant conflicts of interest who have been awarded PHS grants since Aug. 24, 2012, the day the regulation took effect.

I also want a copy of your conflict of interest policy. And if you post these records on the Web, I'm hoping you can direct me to that page. All of these matters are covered by the regulation.”

Information responsive to your request is available at the websites indicated.

- Below is the link to the University Policy on Conflict of Commitment and Interest:
<http://research.uillinois.edu/coci/coci-policy>
- Below is the link to the University website about the public disclosure process:
http://tigger.uic.edu/depts/ovcr/research/conflict/RNUA/managing_conflicts/SFI_FAQ.shtml#FAQ16
- The University has an online request form that needs to be completed and submitted to FCOIrequest@uic.edu.
- Request form:
http://tigger.uic.edu/depts/ovcr/research/conflict/RNUA/forms/PHS_FCOI_info_request.doc

The request form specifies what the University will provide per these requests based on the Public Health Services regulations. Requests should be investigator/key research personnel specific and also specify the award.

Office for University Relations

Urbana • 108 Henry Administration Building • MC 370 • 506 South Wright Street • Urbana, IL 61801 • (217) 333-6400 • Fax (217) 333-5733
Chicago • 414 Administrative Office Building • MC 971 • 1737 West Polk Street • Chicago, IL 60612-7228 • (312) 996-3772 • Fax (312) 996-1836

FCOI Information Request for Senior/Key PHS-Funded Investigator

In order to determine if a significant financial interest (SFI) present a financial conflict of interest (FCOI), the University assesses if an Investigator's SFI disclosure meets three criteria:

- (1) a SFI was disclosed and is still held by the senior/key personnel;*
- (2) the University determines that the SFI is related to the PHS-funded research; and*
- (3) the University determines that the SFI is a FCOI.*

If the SFI presents a FCOI related to the PHS-funded research, then the COI Office will provide a response to this request which will include: the investigator's name, title, and role with respect to the research project, along with the name of the entity in which the SFI is held, the nature of the SFI, and the approximate dollar value of the SFI or a statement that the interest is one whose value cannot be readily determined through reference to public prices or other reasonable measures of fair market value.

If the University determines that an SFI disclosure did not present a FCOI, then the response will indicate that the Investigator does not have a FCOI related to the PHS-funded research.

Should you wish to inspect or receive a physical copy of these documents, please call Melanie Kuehn at the phone number below and she will provide you with all necessary details.

You have a right, under the law, to seek a review of this response by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the Office of the Attorney General. The PAC may be reached by phone at 217-782-1396, by email to publicaccess@atg.state.il.us, or by postal mail at the Public Access Bureau, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706. You also have the right to seek judicial review under section 11 of this Act.

If you have questions for our office, please contact 217-333-6400.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Hardy
Executive Director
and Chief Records Officer