

Conflict of Interest Guidelines concerning selection of an external examiner for a PhD dissertation (adapted from and with full acknowledgment to NSERC)

http://www.nserc.ca/commit/prm2003/prm-ch6_discovery_grant_e.htm#6_6

There is a conflict of interest when:

- A proposed external examiner is, or was in the last six years, from the same university, organization or department, or belongs or belonged, in the last six years, to the same research unit as the supervisor(s) or candidate; or
- There is an administrative or family link between the proposed external examiner and the supervisor(s) or candidate (e.g., head of the department, dean of the faculty, etc.); or
- A proposed external examiner is an industrial or government representative who is or was in the last six years directly involved in collaborative activities with the supervisor(s) or candidate; or
- A proposed external examiner is a former research supervisor or graduate student of the supervisor(s) or candidate or has collaborated or published with the supervisor(s) or candidate within the past six years; or
- The proposed external examiner is uncomfortable with reviewing the proposal due to previous conflicts or any other reason (e.g., past student or supervisor, even if more than six years ago, or personal conflict); or
- The GAU committee or School of Graduate Studies has reason to believe that a specific proposed external examiner should not be involved in the review.

None of the proposed external examiners on the attached list are in conflict of interest with the supervisor(s), or with the PhD candidate _____ in the GAU of _____.

Date: _____

Supervisor(s): _____

Note: This form should be submitted by the Director of Graduate Studies at the time that the GAU forwards nominations for Examining Board membership to the Dean of Graduate Studies.

