

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST GUIDELINES CONCERNING SELECTION OF AN
EXTERNAL EXAMINER FOR A THESIS OR DISSERTATION**

In general, there is a conflict of interest when a proposed external examiner has a personal or professional relationship with the degree candidate, the Supervisor, other members of their Department or Faculty, or other members of the Examining Board. Examples would include:

- Being a relative or close friend, or former student or supervisor
- Being connected to the same university, or affiliated organizations or research units in the last six years.
- Being involved in collaborative activities, including but not limited to publishing or participating together on grants or contracts in the last six years.
- Having long-standing scientific or personal differences.
- Being uncomfortable due to past personal or professional relationships (beyond the last six years) or for any reason feeling unable to provide an impartial review.
- Having other substantive connections that risk the perception of a conflict.

None of the individuals on the attached list are in a conflict of interest to serve as External Examiner for the degree candidate _____ in the GAU of _____.

Student's name

Department/Faculty

Date: _____

Supervisor: _____

Graduate Director: _____

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. Also, once submitted to the Graduate School, the Supervisor is not to have any contact with the External Examiner. The student is not to have any contact with the Members on the Examining Board (with the exception of the Supervisor).