MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents
From: Board Office
Subject: Approval of Vendors with a Potential Conflict of Interest
Date: September 5, 2000

Recommended Action:

Approve the addition of Arthur H. Konar, Ph.D., DAPBS, to Iowa State University’s lists of approved vendors with a potential conflict of interest:

Executive Summary:

Vendors at the Regent institutions with a potential conflict of interest are required by statute to be approved by the Board.

Iowa State University requests to add Arthur H. Konar, Ph.D., DAPBS, who would provide psychological counseling and assessment services for students in the ISU athletic department, to its approved vendor list. Arthur Konar’s wife, Lisa Larson, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at Iowa State University. ISU states that Lisa Larson, will not participate in any evaluation or award decisions relative to the services provided by Arthur H. Konar.

A summary of institutional expenditures with approved conflict of interest vendors is included in the annual purchasing report presented to the Board in November.

Background:

Iowa Code §68B.4 prohibits an official or employee of a regulatory agency from selling, either directly or indirectly, goods or services to the agency of which the individual is an official or employee, except when certain conditions are met. The Iowa Code requires all regulatory agencies to adopt rules specifying the method by which employees may obtain agency consent for exception.

The Board’s adopted rules are incorporated in the Regent Procedural Guide §10.09. Board authorization is required when a single purchase from a conflict of interest vendor (Regent employee) exceeds $1,000 or a fiscal year’s cumulative purchases exceed $2,000.

The Board’s authorization of a vendor with a potential conflict of interest does not alleviate the requirement to obtain competitive bids and provide public notice, as prescribed in Iowa Code §68B.3.

Board rules preclude individuals with potential conflicts from being directly involved in the decisions to purchase, or from authorizing any such contracts, as well as making material changes to such contracts.

Pamela M. Elliott
Approved: Frank J. Stork

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