February 24, 2011

Dear Colleagues:

Last year, the Board of Trustees approved a Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest (COI) policies. Thereafter, the Compliance Oversight Council charged the Interim Conflict Review Board to develop implementation procedures to comply with the Board-approved policies. Those procedures have been written, reviewed by the Executive Cabinet and approved by the Compliance Oversight Council.

Our two new Conflict of Interest policies – Addressing Potential Institutional Conflict of Interest Policy and Procedures and Addressing Potential Individual Conflict of Interest Policy and Procedures – are in effect and posted at http://louisville.edu/conflictofinterest. We will implement the new policies in three phases with Phase One being the activation of the Conflict of Interest website and the announcement of the policies.

Phase Two is the development of an automated system which will facilitate the disclosures required by the COI policies. All University employees are required by these policies to submit annually a Code of Conduct Attestation and Disclosure of External Activities. We are currently in the bid process for an automated system to support the submission of the annual reporting requirements. When the new system is developed, tested and ready, we will begin Phase Three which is the electronic submission of the attestation and disclosures.

We are confident that we can smoothly transition to a conflict of interest system that provides oversight of institution and individual activities that help to preserve the integrity of the academic, business, clinical and research missions of the University. Working together to foster an atmosphere of honesty and integrity, we will continue to position the University of Louisville as one of the preeminent metropolitan universities in the country. I look forward to your cooperation to ensure the successful implementation of this important compliance program.

Sincerely,

Shirley C. Willihnganz
Executive Vice President and University Provost