POLICY:

Statement of Purpose
The purpose of this document is to establish a standard of conduct for all University of Minnesota DVM students and corporate sponsors who wish to contribute to the educational mission of the College. University of Minnesota employees (faculty and staff) are covered by the Individual Conflicts of Interest policy which can be found at www.policy.umn.edu/Policies/Operations/Compliance/CLINICALCOI.html.

Corporate sponsors can include pharmaceutical, biomedical, device manufacturers, food suppliers, logistic partners, or any company providing product or services to the CVM. Henceforth these companies will be referred to as business partners. A conflict of interest exists when financial interest or other opportunities for tangible benefit may compromise or appear to compromise the judgment of individuals. The goal for this standard of conduct is to manage potential conflict of interest by creating a transparent process with oversight and fair and equitable access to all business partners, and to ensure DVM students are provided educational opportunities. The guidelines provided in this document will help ensure that an appropriate relationship is maintained between the CVM and business partners in regard to DVM students.

Financial Support
We value the financial support provided by our business partners and recognize that they support important educational initiatives. Support for educational programming must first be approved and sanctioned by the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs. Monetary support, once approved, will be made by check to the University Of Minnesota College Of Veterinary Medicine, and will be identified toward the specific cause. Recognition of support may be given during introductions at programs. Use of company logo on materials is permissible but no product logo or names may be used except in scientific, technical or educational presentations.

PROCEDURE:

CVM Visits
All business partner representatives should make an appointment through the Office of Academic and Student Affairs at least three weeks in advance of a presentation to DVM students. Visitors are required to wear a name tag or visitor’s badge. Requests not made within this timeframe cannot be guaranteed any accommodation.

Hiring a Student Corporate Representative
Business partners are allowed to utilize student representatives to help support educational opportunities, provide liaison opportunities, and act as a conduit for information to the CVM. Interviews and selection of a student as a representative must be approved by the Associate Dean prior to establishing an association with the student. The business partner will work with the Academic and Student Affairs office to ensure that all eligible students are made
aware of the job opportunity. Student applicants must be in good standing with the college, and should thoughtfully considers all of academic responsibilities before agreeing to take on additional corporate representative responsibilities. DVM students who are hired are to keep the Academic and Student Affairs office informed of their activities, and must have all meetings and programs they conduct on behalf of the business partner they represent, approved at least three weeks in advance. Student Corporate Representatives are expected to put their academic obligations first.

**Education Events and Corporate Speakers**

All programs, lectures, laboratory sessions or functions conducted for DVM students must first be approved by the Office of Academic and Student Affairs. This includes functions held at the school during and after normal operating hours. It is the responsibility of the Student Corporate Representative or Student Organization, to ensure space is reserved and arrangements for cleaning are made. Students will also see that all policies and protocols of the CVM are followed (i.e. IACUC protocols are in place for a wet lab). When an educational event is provided for the DVM students, any student who chooses to attend the event is expected to act in a professional and thoughtful manner.

Programs provided by corporate entities must be information that is scientific or professional development-related and not product specific. A copy of the any presentation or handouts must be provided to the Associate Dean’s office on or before the date of the presentation. Any reference to a specific product must be science-based and must include a fair and balanced disclosure of competitive product(s). Refreshments (including lunch or light dinner) may be provided. No prizes, promotions, or gifts of any value may be distributed. It is recognized that a business partner may be requested by a CVM faulty member to provide information or education about a specific product.

**Product Distribution and Information**

**Samples and Demonstration Items:** The CVM must centrally receive, document and disseminate free or discounted samples and demonstration items provided by a business partner.

**Gifts:** Students may not accept gifts from a business entity, irrespective of the nature or value of the gift (including items of minimal value such as coffee mugs, pens, free services, items with the name or logo of a business entity).

However, gifts offered at widely-attended off-site educational events or professional conferences, where acceptance of the gift is optional and the gift is offered to all attendees (e.g., tote bags and door prizes at a conference) are an exception to this restriction and may be accepted.

The term “gift” does not include an award given for merit, excellence in a certain field of expertise, or a particular accomplishment.

**Policy Violations**

**OVERSIGHT/FOLLOW THROUGH:**

Student violations of this policy will be handled through the Honor Case Commission and/or Student Promotions Committee in accordance with the Honor and Conduct code.
☐ Notify Academic and Student Affairs Office 2-3 weeks prior of scheduling event. If live animals will be present at event, contact Amanda Anderson 2 months prior to ensure IACUC protocols are in place.

☐ Contact AHC Classroom Services to reserve space. (insert weblink)

☐ Contact Tim Gordon or Steen Erickson in Facilities Management if you need to arrange for extra trash bins, and trash pickup. 612-624-2900

☐ Provide a copy of the presentation, and any handouts or materials that will be distributed to the Academic and Student Affairs Office, prior to the scheduled event.