

## **Relationship with Industry Guidelines (RIG)**

### **School of Audiology and Speech Sciences**

SASS Relationship with Industry Subcommittee: Drs. Lorientne Jenstad, Navid Shahnaz, Stacey Skoretz, Jeff Small (Chair)

Note: These guidelines highlight selected sections from the Faculty of Medicine's Relationship with Industry Policy (RIP)<sup>1</sup> that apply most directly to our School context, providing specific procedures for handling industry-School relations. These SASS guidelines do not intend to replace, but rather expand on, the FoM RIP. Thus, SASS faculty and staff are expected to be familiar with and reference both the FoM RIP and SASS RIG in their interactions with industry.

<sup>1</sup><https://mednet.med.ubc.ca/AboutUs/PoliciesAndGuidelines/Policies%20Guidelines/Relationship%20with%20Industry%20Policy.pdf>

#### **I. Research**

See RIP *Research* pp. 3, 4 regarding industry-sponsored research.

#### **II. Education**

##### *Conflict of interest (COI) declaration*

All guest lecturers (including industry representatives and clinicians) should make a COI declaration. Industry representatives should forward presentation slides/materials to the School's Director, unless they are giving a presentation as clinicians and are not promoting products or services from a manufacturer with whom they are affiliated. (The important point is to distinguish the role they take on for the lecture/presentation) (See RIP *Education* p. 4, points 1 & 3)

#### **III. Educational Resources, or Samples (from industry)**

See RIP *Educational Resources* p. 5, points 1, 3; *Samples*, p. 6, point 1) regarding use of materials provided by manufacturers for instruction. These materials will be critically appraised by faculty who have the relevant content expertise to determine if they are appropriate for meeting the students' educational learning goals. Faculty who receive materials from industry will submit (to the Director) an annual summary of such interactions with industry, including a list of materials received, and how their use contributes to meeting the students' learning objectives.

#### **IV. Gifts**

Gifts, no matter the monetary value (e.g., food, water bottles; Ferrari), should NOT be accepted from industry. (See RIP *Gifts*, p. 5)

**V. Meetings between students and industry representatives** (How industry contacts/reaches our students) (See RIP *Detailing*, pp. 6-7; *Educational Resources* p. 5, points 1, 3)

All meetings with students should be clearly communicated as an educational event (i.e., industry reps are not coming to market their products). The Director's office will monitor meeting requests from industry to ensure that there is "equal access" to our students by various industries/companies (i.e., we don't want to have a monopoly relationship with just one company). Requests from each agency will only be accommodated once per year.

Industry shall NOT be provided with a list of students for purposes of organizing a meeting with them. All such industry requests for meetings will be handled by the Director's office, and if approved in principle, will be subject to students' interest in meeting with the industry representative.

The following procedures and guidelines are to be followed for handling a request by an industry representative to meet with students:

- 1) Communication regarding such events should be initiated between the industry rep and the School Director (not directly with students).
- 2) If the request (meeting and industry materials to be presented) is approved by the School's Director, he/she will ask a faculty member to be the event "advisor", who will be responsible for scheduling, hosting/overseeing, being present at the meeting, and debriefing students following the presentation.
- 3) We expect full-time or part-time faculty in the School, as well as Clinical Faculty\*, to rotate in sharing the responsibility as advisors of these events. The Director's office will keep a record of faculty participation in organizing these meetings.  
\*Director to arrange with Director's Assistant for sending out an email message to CF at the beginning of each term (indicating which days/times the meetings will take place), inviting CF to participate as organizers of industry-student meetings.
- 4) Meetings will be held at a time and place which does not conflict with other School events and restrictions on classroom usage. Use of the space will be normally granted for a maximum of 50 minutes for the presentation, plus time for debriefing. Each term the Program Director will designate a time slot for holding such meetings.
- 5) The faculty advisor will debrief students immediately after the meeting using the debriefing document (see attached). The debriefing discussion will address the role of industry representatives, the communication techniques used in the presentation, and a critical appraisal of any industry material provided by the representative.
- 6) The faculty advisor will be responsible for ensuring that the meeting room is unlocked at the requested time, and left as it was found and locked after the meeting is over.

## **VI. Invitation to industry-sponsored events**

(See RIP, *Education*, p. 4, points 4, 6, 8; I, p. 5, points 1, 2)

- 1) Industry invitations to sponsor students' participation in industry events

Invitations from industry to sponsor attendance by our students at an industry event outside of the School will be considered if these events have a clear educational value (e.g., students learn

about new technology, connect with colleagues/students elsewhere, and material can be presented in an educational format). Communication regarding such invitations should be addressed to the School Director (not directly with students). If students indicate an interest in participating, and the request is approved by the School's Director, he/she will inquire whether a faculty member would be interested in attending the event. If so, that faculty member's participation in the event should also be supported by the industry.

## 2) Donations from industry to support students' participation in other professional development events

Donations from industry to students/faculty to attend events outside the School should be unrestricted (in terms of their use), but do not guarantee access to learners (i.e., participation in specific events organized by a manufacturer). This requirement applies to donations for the purpose of students attending professional/scientific meetings where industry may organize activities with students at that meeting. Communication from industry regarding such sponsorship should be addressed to the School Director (not to students). Students wishing to initiate contact with prospective industry donors should first receive approval from the School's Director. In both instances, the Director's office will inform the industry about the unrestricted nature of the donation, and that it will be up to the School to decide how, to whom and the purpose for the release of these funds. The industry donated funds will be deposited in an account belonging to the School.

## VII. Communication

It is expected that all faculty, staff, and students be on board with the FoM RIP and SASS RIG guidelines. The SASS RIG should be referenced in coursework that is relevant to relationship with industry issues. An online FoM RIP module is now required for all full-time faculty to take as prerequisite to submitting their conflict of interest declaration on RISE (<https://ubccpd.ca/program-resources/relationship-with-industry>). This module is also available to students, staff, and the public (including clinical faculty, industry). In the meantime, SASS first-point-of-contact staff (e.g., Graduate Program Coordinator; Executive Assistant to the Director) should be informed about appropriate procedures to follow when interacting with industry representatives (firstly, to direct all such inquiries to the Director, at "director@audiospeech.ubc.ca").

## Definitions

Industry:

- Any third-party private/public, profit/non-profit (key distinction for now; but situation can be more complicated than this simple distinction)

- For-profit companies that manufacture, sell and advertise products, or company owned by a manufacturer; distributors of products; Clinicians or companies who provide service by selling products.
- Clinicians who provide only services are NOT considered “industry.”