Policy Name: Conflict of Interest

Pertinent to: Students / Resident Teachers / Faculty

Purpose: Policy on Conflicts of Interest in Academic Supervision and Evaluation, from the Handbook on Student Rights and Responsibilities

1. Where a member of the academic staff or a teaching assistant and a student are in a close personal relationship such that there is, or may be perceived to be, a conflict of interest or possible favoritism, then the staff member or teaching assistant shall decline or terminate a supervisory or evaluative role with respect to that student, and, where necessary, make appropriate alternative arrangements for the supervision and evaluation of the student’s work.

2. For the purposes of this chapter, a close personal relationship shall include spouses, parent and child, siblings, and consensual amorous relationships.

3. The alternative arrangements for supervision and evaluation shall be made in confidence and shall not prejudice the status of the student, staff member or teaching assistant.

4. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as condoning consensual amorous relationships between academic staff or teaching assistants and students.

Supplemental information for MDCM Students

- It is the student’s responsibility to inquire in advance if they think that they may be “in conflict” when assigned to a particular course, discipline and site as per the above.

- Electives must be taken in medical or medically-related fields under the supervision of certified physicians who are not family members or close friends

- In cases where a student has an academic relationship with a physician at McGill Health Services or at any other clinic, the student has the right to request that McGill Health Services or any other clinic refer that student to another physician.

- In cases where a student may come to have an academic relationship with a physician who has previously provided the student medical care at McGill health Services or at any other clinic, the student has the right and the student and the physician share the responsibility to ensure that the physician recuses him/herself from subsequent evaluations of the student. The student is encouraged to request a change in supervisor or teaching site, as necessary, from the appropriate component administrator: FMD Year 1, FMD Year 2, TCP, Clerkship, and Physicianship.

For more details and other conflict of interest, please see:
http://www.mcgill.ca/secretariat/policies/research/conflictofinterest

http://www.mcgill.ca/studenthealth/see-doctor/potential-conflicts-interest