

Northwestern

STUDENT-FACULTY AGREEMENT ***Student Engagement in Faculty Enterprises***

This Agreement and the guidelines within it are intended to permit thoughtful and productive engagement of students in faculty enterprises, including startup companies and consulting activities, while protecting the academic interests of students. As part of Northwestern's commitment to the academic pursuits and integrity of its students, advance notice and approval of student engagement in faculty enterprises are required through receipt and signature of this Agreement.

Student Name:

Faculty Name:

Department:

Name of start-up company or other enterprise:

Description of the proposed activity:

Description of how the proposed activity contributes to the success of the student's thesis research and/or training:

Start date and anticipated end date: _____ *to* _____

If the proposed activity is sponsored research funded by the start-up company, give the percent of support provided to the student by company-sponsored funds:

By signing below, the student and faculty member indicate their understanding and agreement that:

1. Students always have the choice of whether to participate in faculty enterprise activities. Coercion in any form is strictly forbidden.
2. The work assigned to the student should promote education and professional growth.
3. The work done by the student must not interfere with their academic progress. Publications should never be restricted, and a graduation date should never be delayed because of faculty enterprise or consulting activities.
4. If the student finds the enterprise work to be in conflict with academic progress, he/she has the right to cancel the arrangement with reasonable notice to the faculty member.
5. A faculty member supervising the thesis work of a student concurrently involved in that faculty member's outside enterprise cannot have sole signature authority on the student's thesis during the period of the student's outside engagement. An additional and disinterested faculty member must be assigned as co-signer for the duration of the student's graduate studies. Similarly, if the faculty member has a supervisory role in a class taken by a student concurrently involved in that faculty member's outside enterprise, the faculty member must remove himself/herself from grading the student, thus avoiding potential conflicts of interest in the evaluation of the student's performance.
6. If the student is supported by a combination of federal grants and sponsored research funded by the faculty start-up, proper attention should be paid to each project such that each receives the appropriate amount of effort.
7. Faculty must disclose consulting and enterprise activities as required on conflict of interest disclosures, and student engagement in these activities should be explicitly reported. Students subject to University conflict of interest disclosure requirements must also disclose their activity in faculty consulting and enterprise activities.
8. Dean's offices and Northwestern Conflict of Interest will maintain copies of signed *Student-Faculty Agreements* and will query students annually and at the conclusion of the proposed work to ensure that students are engaged voluntarily in meaningful work that did/does not interfere with their academic progress.

Student Signature and Date

Director of Graduate Studies Signature and Date

Faculty Signature and Date

Dean's Office Signature and Date