The University of Texas at Dallas has made a commitment to translating the results of UTD research into products and services that benefit the public and spur economic development through commercialization and social entrepreneurship. In line with the ethical conduct of research, the University and its researchers have a responsibility to achieve these goals in a way that mitigates conflicts of interest when researchers embark on commercial ventures.

**University Responsibilities**
The University accepts the primary responsibility to comply with federal regulations and monitor University activities related to a research conflict of interest. The Office of Research Compliance (ORC) manages the disclosure and management of research conflict of interests at UTD. ORC works with researchers to identify situations that may create a conflict of interest and determine what steps need to be taken to mitigate or manage the conflict.

**Researcher Responsibilities**
The researcher’s primary responsibility is the accomplishment of his or her duties and obligations to the University. When starting a commercial venture, UTD researchers need to be aware of responsibilities they have related to their activities with the company outside the University.

- **Disclose Outside Activities:** You must disclose all outside interests and activities with the company that are related to your institutional responsibilities for UT Dallas. You must inform ORC within 30 business days of acquiring a financial or fiduciary interest or engaging in new outside activities with the company.

- **Avoid Overlapping Responsibilities:** Accepting fiduciary or managerial responsibilities at the company can create the appearance of a conflict when the company engages with UTD. ORC recommends serving in advisory or consultative roles at the company.
  - You cannot work on related research projects at both UTD and the company simultaneously, particularly on research supported by federal grants or contracts.
  - A company representative unaffiliated with UTD must represent the company in negotiations with UTD for licensing, lab use, and other research agreements and contracts.

- **Separate UTD Research from Company Projects:** You must maintain a clear separation between the research projects you conduct as a UT Dallas employee and your contributions to the company.
  - Disclose to ORC when you propose or initiate a research project at UT Dallas that is related the interests of the company.
  - Conduct your activities so that UT Dallas students and researchers understand you are acting on behalf of the company and when you are acting on behalf of UTD.
  - Disclose your potential conflict to students involved in UTD research related to the company.

- **Intellectual Property Obligations:** The conditions of your employment with UT Dallas require any invention or technology of which you conceive while an employee of UT Dallas is owned by the Board of Regents. You should review any consulting or employment agreement to ensure it does not violate your IP obligations to UTD. You should address all intellectual property questions to the Office of Technology Commercialization.

- **Access to UTD Resources:** Company employees or affiliates are not permitted to access and/or use University equipment or resources unless such access or use is conducted under an agreement approved and administrated by UT Dallas. The company should contact the Office of Research if UTD resources are needed to conduct work for the direct benefit of the company.

Please contact Conor Wakeman in the Office of Research Compliance by phone (972-833-4718) or email (conor@utdallas.edu) with any questions, comments, or concerns.