

PERSONNEL, NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGES

**POLICY: 5003 Conflict of Interest; Faculty;
Sale of Books and Supplies to Students;
Copyrights and Royalties; Patents**

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BOARD POLICY

No member of the staff of the three State Colleges shall have any financial interest in or receive any compensation from the sale of books and other educational materials and supplies used by students at the State Colleges except royalties on books or other educational material from publishing houses of standing when copyright has been secured. It shall be the joint responsibility of the President, departmental head, the dean of instruction, and academic officer to approve the adoption of teaching materials authored by the instructor and to prevent any exploitation of students.

The Board encourages members of the staff to seek patents on discoveries and inventions as a method of bringing recognition and remuneration to the employee and to the State College System. Patentable discoveries by staff members that result from the performance of duties owed to the College, or from the use of College properties or facilities, except where such use is minimal, shall be offered to the Board in writing prior to making a patent application.

If the Board accepts the offer within six (6) months, it shall pursue the patent application with the help of the inventor at no cost to the inventor. Royalties and other proceeds occurring from any successful patent shall be decided according to a mutually agreed on formula, but in no case shall the inventor's share be less than 15% of the net revenue.

If the Board rejects the offer, the inventor is free to pursue the patent application at his or her own expense. In the event that a third party assists the Board and the inventor in pursuing the patentability of a discovery or invention, the conditions and financial arrangements shall be specified by contracts signed by all parties to the agreement.

Policy Adopted: 1/28/77
Policy Revised: 2/7/83
Policy Revised: 6/5/93