UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM
BOARD OF REGENTS AGENDA

COMMITTEE: Audit & Compliance

ITEM: Report on Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policies of the Board of Regents and Each of the Universities

DATE PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED:

SUMMARY:

The Board of Regents Audit and Compliance Committee Charter and Checklist, item number 23, requires the Audit and Compliance Committee to conduct an annual review of the ethics and conflict of interest policies of the Board and each of the universities to ensure that the Board of Regents and each of the institutions have Conflict of Interest Policies in place. The policies include Code of Ethics/Ethical Conduct of Employees and Conflicts of Interest. In addition to their own policies, all institutions also refer to the Texas Ethics Commission “Guide to Ethics Laws for State Officers and Employees.

These policies provide guidelines to avoid conflicts of interest, generally described as the use of one’s university employment or position to obtain unauthorized privileges, benefits, or things of value for oneself or others. Standards of conduct for employees must also be maintained to fulfill their responsibility to the public in the in performance of their official duties. These policies set forth a code of accountability for component university employees in the performance of university responsibilities, identify areas of legal and ethical concern, and specify requirements for compliance with state laws, federal guidelines, Board of Regents policies, standards of ethics, and good business practices.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION: Ethics and Conflicts of Interest Policies Summary (including changes during the past year), Table of Contents, and Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policies of the Board of Regents, University of Houston System, University of Houston, University of Houston Downtown, University of Houston Clear Lake, and University of Houston Victoria

FISCAL NOTE:

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION REQUESTED: Information

COMPONENT: University of Houston System

CHIEF AUDIT EXECUTIVE: Don Guyton

DATE: 10/17/11

CHANCELLOR: Renu Khator

DATE: 11/11/11

AUDIT – J-70