TO: Deans, Directors & Department Chairs, Regional Campus Presidents and University Faculty

FROM: George A. Huber, JD, MSIE, MSSM
Vice Chancellor for Research Conduct and Compliance

DATE: January 25, 2018

SUBJECT: Update on requirements for Conflict of Interest (COI) Training

In my memorandum issued on December 14, 2016, it was noted that: “Regardless of sponsor, for all successful new applications for research funding that are submitted after February 1, 2017, release of funding will be contingent upon all investigators on the project having completed COI and RCR training within 4 years prior to the date of release.” In addition, all investigators are required to complete the CITI COI course to fulfill the training requirement.

Investigators who were NOT supported by the agencies of the Public Health Service (PHS) and had previously completed the ISER module to fulfill their COI training were given until February 1, 2018 to complete the CITI COI course. At the current time, revisions to the University COI policy are under consideration and have not yet been finalized. Given this, it has been decided to extend the date for completion of the CITI COI course by those who have completed the ISER course in the past until July 1, 2018 by which time the new policy is to be approved and new training modules in place.

Please note that all PHS-supported investigators, as required by federal regulation, and all other externally funded investigators who have not completed the ISER course must complete the CITI COI course prior to commencing work on any funded project and every four years thereafter.

You may contact Mr. David Wehrle in the COI Office at 412-383-1774 or by email at: dtw12@pitt.edu if you have any questions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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1 This letter can be found at http://www.coi.pitt.edu/Forms/COITrainingMemo.pdf. The Responsible Conduct of Research training requirements described in the letter continue to apply.