ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY

The necessary trust supporting the relationship between the Board and its University constituencies depends upon the belief, put into practice, that the Board acts in the interest of the University. This trust will be undermined by a perceived lack of ethical conduct. Of course, the Board holds itself to the same standard to which it holds the staff: that it will not authorize or countenance any action that is unlawful, that contractual agreements will be upheld, and that its decisions meet a “prudent person” test. These standards, together with observing moral obligations, describe ethical behavior to which the Board hereby commits itself.

One specific way in which the Board’s commitment to ethical conduct can be compromised is for a member of the Board, acting in his or her capacity as Trustee, to allow his or her personal interests (or those of other organizations on the behalf of which the Trustee acts) to supersede the interest of the University. In particular, a Trustee cannot shape a University decision to inure to the pecuniary advantage of any other organization with which he or she is associated. To prevent the reality or appearance of a conflict of interest occurring, Trustees will file with the Secretary of the University annually (or upon a change in personal situation) a statement that will identify areas of potential conflict of interest so further inquiry can be made to obtain necessary disclosure. Appropriate steps should be taken to assure the Trustee is removed from the decision-making process that presents a conflict of interest.

7/18/2005