APPENDIX B:
SASEC Conflict-of-Interest Policy

(Draft July 3, 2006)

A. INTRODUCTION

General statement:
The goal of the conflict-of-interest (COI) policy for the Science Advisory Structure Executive Committee (SASEC) of the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP) is to manage conflict of interest effectively and efficiently, and to minimize both real and perceived conflicts of interest while maintaining the fullest possible involvement of knowledgeable scientists in acting as the executive authority of the Science Advisory Structure.

Definition:
A conflict of interest is a situation in which the interests (for example: personal, familial, professional, or commercial) of an IODP SASEC member or designated alternate have a real or perceived impact, either positive or negative, on SASEC's ability to act under its Terms of Reference. Conflict of interest depends on the situation, not the character or actions of the individual.

B. COI POLICY

- Conflicts of interest are unavoidable. If any SASEC member, alternate, or any other attendee of a SASEC meeting, has any direct interest that might be affected by, or might reasonably be perceived to be affected by, any action under consideration by the Committee, that member or attendee is required to make a public declaration of the existence of such interest to the Chair.
- SASEC members or other meeting attendees determined as having a conflict of interest regarding IODP-related financial or commercial enterprises will not be present during discussions relevant to such financial or commercial enterprises.
- The possible existence of a conflict of interest may also be proposed to the Chair by a member or attendee other than the member having the interest.
- All potential conflicts of interest will be declared to or by the Chair at the start of every meeting or at an otherwise appropriate time during the meeting, and will be recorded in the minutes.
- The Chair (in consultation with the Vice-Chair and/or other members of SASEC) will make a determination regarding whether the circumstances constitute a conflict of interest. Any action taken to eliminate conflict of interest (including exclusion from discussion and/or from voting) will be recorded in the minutes.