The American Association of Neurological Surgeons
Governance Conflict of Interest Policy

In order that the decisions and actions of AANS not be unduly influenced by any special interests of individual members or employees, the Association’s Board of Directors, all Committee Chairs and Committee Members, and AANS Management (including Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, Associate Executive Directors, Department Directors, Department Managers) and the Association’s General Counsel must file an electronic disclosure statement annually. [All of the individuals required to complete this form, and any member of his/her immediate family living with him/her, will be referred to collectively as “Affected Parties” in the remainder of this document.]

While it is not possible to list every circumstance that may give rise to a possible conflict of interest, the following serves as a guide to the types of activity which might cause conflicts and which should be fully reported.

1. Ownership or any proprietary or other financial interest by an Affected Party in any outside concern which does business with AANS.

2. Rendition by an Affected Party of directive, managerial or consultative services for profit to any outside concern that does business or seeks to do business with AANS, except if such services are rendered with the knowledge and consent of AANS.

3. Acceptance by an Affected Party of gifts of more than $100 in value, loans (other than from established banking or financial institutions), entertainment, or other substantial favors from any outside concern which does, or is seeking to do, business with AANS.

4. Disclosure or use of confidential AANS information for the personal profit or advantage of the Affected Party.

5. Other activities which may give rise to potential conflicting interests – and for illustrative purposes only:
   a. Service as a director, officer or committee chair of another medical association or organization.
   b. Any interest in, sponsorship or promotion of any commercial venture including, but not limited to, development of drugs, devices or instruments, medical writing, audio or video tapes, electronic media.
   c. Receipt of support for research activities from government, commercial or private sources.
   d. Acceptance of support from commercial sources with the intent or understanding that a commercial product will be promoted by the formulation and presentation of the scientific exhibit, paper or visual aid at an AANS meeting or sponsored scientific function.
   e. Ownership of stock or stock options, or a partnership, in any medical device company.
   f. Ownership of stock, stock options, or a partnership, in a current or prospective vendor or supplier to the AANS.