

Agricultural History Society
CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT & DISCLOSURE FORM

A conflict of interest (defined in the Agricultural History Society’s Professional Standards) arises when an individual’s personal interest or bias threatens or appears to threaten or compromise their ability to act in accordance with professional obligations. Conduct need not be illegal, only unethical, to pose a conflict of interest and to compromise professional standards. Any member who uses their AHS position to self-promote engages in unethical behavior, which is also serious professional misconduct.

Conflicts of interest most often arise during peer review (of manuscripts, session proposals, award submissions, etc.). AHS members should identify and recuse themselves from decisions or actions that pose a conflict of interest or the appearance thereof. They should avoid situations when they personally benefit or appear to benefit financially at the expense of their professional obligations. Not all conflicts of interest are necessarily prohibited or harmful. Yet, full disclosure of all actual and potential conflicts is required, and the interested member(s) should recuse themselves from debates and voting on matters that pose a potential conflict.

Anyone in an appointed or elected position within AHS shall complete this form to affirm that they have read and will abide by the AHS Statement of Professional Standards and Code of Conduct, and to disclose possible conflicts of interest prior to accepting a committee appointment or other responsibility that might pose a conflict at the time of their assumption of duties. They shall review the form and revise as needed at least once a year. All completed forms shall be retained by the AHS Executive Secretary.

In the case of perceived or real conflicts of interest, AHS officers will confer and appoint a committee of disinterested AHS Executive Committee members. The committee shall determine whether a conflict exists and what subsequent action is appropriate (if any). They shall inform the Executive Committee of such determination and action. The Executive Committee shall retain the right to modify or reverse such determination and action and shall retain the ultimate enforcement authority with respect to the interpretation and application of this policy.



I have read the AHS Statement of Professional Standards and Code of Conduct, and the AHS Conflict of Interest Statement and agree to comply with these terms and conditions during my service to the AHS. If at any time I become aware of actual or potential conflicts of interest, or if the information provided below becomes inaccurate or incomplete, I will promptly submit a new form to the AHS Executive Secretary.

I disclose the following Actual or Potential Conflicts of Interest (mark N/A to affirm that no actual or potential conflicts exist) (please continue on reverse):

Board Member Signature: _____

Board Member Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Adopted by the AHS Executive Committee, June 2, 2020.

Based on the American Historical Association’s Conflict of Interest Policy (2012) & the History of Science Society Conflict of Interest Statement (2012)