2-1011 Ethics and Conflict of Interest

(1) Purpose and Scope

(a) Purpose. The purpose of this regulation is to establish clear policies for ethics and conflicts of interest on the part of NCF Trustees and the BOT.

(b) Scope. Trustees are “state officers” as defined in Chapter 112.313(1), Florida Statutes, and are accordingly subject to the requirements of the Florida Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees set out in Chapters 112.311 – 112.326, Florida Statutes. This regulation is intended to supplement provisions of the Florida Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees.

(2) General Statement. The welfare of NCF shall at all times be paramount and take precedence over any and all personal, parochial, and business conflicts of interest thereby ensuring that a Trustee’s independence of judgment is not compromised, and that the public’s confidence and NCF’s confidence for the integrity of the BOT are preserved, and that NCF’s public mission is protected and served.

(3) Definition of Conflict of Interest. “Conflict of interest” means a situation in which regard for a private interest tends to lead to disregard of duties related to NCF or the interests of NCF. A Trustee shall be considered to have a conflict of interest if:

(a) Such Trustee has existing or potential financial or other interests that impair or might reasonably appear to impair such member’s independent, unbiased judgment in the discharge of his or her responsibilities to the College, or

(b) Such Trustee is aware that a member of his or her family, or any organization in which such Trustee (or member of his or her family) is an officer, director, employee, member, partner, trustee, or controlling stockholder, has such existing or potential financial or other interests.

(4) Reporting and Prohibited Conduct

(a) Any potential conflict of interest or uncertainty regarding a conflict of interest shall be brought to the immediate attention of the BOT.

(b) A trustee is not prohibited from voting on any matter, however a trustee voting upon any measure which would inure to the Trustee’s special private gain or loss, or the special gain or loss of a relative or business associate of the Trustee, shall disclose the nature of his or her interest in a public record in a memorandum filed with the Clerk, who shall incorporate the memorandum in the minutes of the BOT meeting.

(c) The BOT has legal authority to give direction to the President of NCF. Unless specifically referred by the President, Trustees shall not intervene in relations with other administrators, faculty, staff or students. Complaints made to any Trustee shall be referred directly to the President.

(d) Trustees are prohibited from soliciting or accepting gifts, loans, or anything of value based upon the understanding that the Trustee’s official action(s) or judgment would be influenced by such a
gift. Further, a Trustee or a Trustee’s spouse or minor child may not accept any compensation, payment or thing of value when the Trustee knows or with exercise of reasonable care should know is given to influence official actions of the Trustee.

_Authority: Article IX, Sec. 7, Fla. Constitution; Fla. Board of Governors Regulation 1.001_

_History: Adopted 09-29-01 as By-laws of the Board of Trustees of NCF; Revised 11-03-01, 05-25-02, 07-15-02, 08-24-02, 02-08-03, 02-05-05; Revised and renumbered 11-04-05; Revised 11-06-10, 03-10-17 (technical amendment)