Disclosure of Outside Activities for Prof. Michael W Toffel
May 10, 2018

This document provides a comprehensive disclosure statement describing all of my outside activities during the previous three years. This disclosure statement includes, and goes beyond, the information required by the Harvard Business School’s Policy on Conflicts of Interests (COI), which requires faculty members to disclose all paid and unpaid activities with outside organizations (i.e., organizations not associated with Harvard University or Harvard Business School), sources of incremental compensation paid by Harvard University, and sources of external research funding during the previous three years if they are directly related to a specific work product (e.g., an article, book, case study, speech, or class) that is in the public domain.

Compensated Teaching

I have been compensated by Harvard for teaching in several Harvard Business School executive education courses (Corporate Social Responsibility, Agribusiness Seminar, and a custom program for Suncor Energy) and for teaching in the Harvard Advanced Leadership Initiative’s Climate Change Deep Dive program.

Research Funding

My research is supported by the Harvard Business School Division of Research and Faculty Development. Some of my co-authors have received outside research funding from the Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy’s (now the Arnold Foundation) Low-Cost RCT Grant ($96,000) and the Department of Labor’s DOL Scholars Program ($27,100), but I have not received any funding from those or any other outside sources.

Royalties

I receive royalties from Harvard Business Publishing for outside sales (i.e., for use outside of Harvard Business School) of my case studies, teaching notes, and other products.

Board Positions

I do not serve on the governing boards of any companies.

Since 2009, I have served on the Board of Directors of the Alliance for Research on Corporate Sustainability (ARCS), a partnership among academic institutions created to provide data and networking opportunities to facilitate research on corporate sustainability. This is an unpaid position.

Since 2015, I have served on the (non-governing) Advisory Board of Social Accountability International (SAI), a non-profit organization that has developed the SA8000 certification standard governing working conditions, which is a topic of my academic research. This is an unpaid position, but I have accepted meals and funding to reimburse some of my travel expenses.

In 2017, I served on the (non-governing) Impartiality Advisory Committee for SGS North America Inc., a company that provides certification to management system standards, a topic of my academic research. This was an unpaid position.

In 2017, I served on the (non-governing) Citizenship & Sustainability Advisory Council of Biogen, Inc., a biotechnology company at which my wife was then employed. This was an unpaid position.

Other Outside Activities

I serve as an elected Parent Representative on the School Site Council of the Edward Devotion School, a K-8 elementary school in Brookline, MA. Since 2018, I have served as Town Meeting Member in Brookline, MA. These are unpaid positions.

I am occasionally paid a nominal fee to conduct peer reviews for academic journals.