

Resolution On The Assignment of Materials From Which Faculty Derive Royalties
April 27, 2005

The Faculty Assembly applauds the scholarly endeavors of the Faculty, including the publication of books and other materials suitable for use in the classroom.

The Assembly expects that faculty will assign texts and other classroom materials that are, within their professional judgment, pedagogically sound and relevant to the course.

The Assembly encourages faculty to be alert to the potential for conflict of interest when assigning class materials from which a faculty member derives royalties. In light of these principles, faculty who choose to assign materials from which they incidentally derive royalties should:

Consider directing the proceeds of such assignments to William and Mary students to the College's annual fund, to support student financial aid or to other non-controversial charities;

Consider obtaining objective assurance that the assignment of the material in question is pedagogically sound. Such assurance can include peer reviews concluding that the material is suitable for classroom use and/or assignment of the material in comparable courses at other colleges or universities. It is appropriate for these types of assurances to be obtained when textbook practices are questioned.