Carolyn L. Williams, PhD
Disclosure Statement
Updated April 10, 2018

I joined the faculty in the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota in January 1981, following a post-doctoral research fellowship at the University’s Institute for Research on Learning Disabilities and after earning my doctorate in clinical psychology in 1979 from the University of Georgia. I qualified for my Minnesota license to practice psychology in 1981 and have maintained it ever since. Around 1993, at my request, I converted my full-time 12-month appointment to a nine-month appointment, and over the years reduced my appointment to part-time, while retaining my tenure status. I became an Emeritus Professor in the Division of Epidemiology of the School of Public Health at the University in 2001.

After my retirement from the University in 2001, I continued working on a part-time faculty appointment until the end of 2006. From 1990 to 2007, my faculty position and/or research activities (including research using the MMPI-A) were supported in large part by multiple grants from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. From 1985 to 1989 I was supported partially on grants from the National Institute of Mental Health for work on refugee mental health (which included cross-cultural work on the MMPI).

During my career at Minnesota my academic research and other scholarship resulted in intellectual property (e.g., books, course materials, articles, computer software, handouts for professional meetings, secondary school curricula) that under University policy was owned by me, its creator and/or co-creator. Like other University of Minnesota faculty, I was free to enter into agreements with publishers and receive royalties for these regular academic work products. Of the over 100 professional publications I have written, only a very small percentage produced any royalty income. Of the 14 books I have written or edited, I received royalties from five on the MMPI-2 and/or MMPI-A in the last three years, and the annual amount was less than what University policy defines as a significant financial interest (i.e., $10,000). I am the co-author of a prevention program for underage drinking and other drug use, published by Hazelden Publishing and Educational Services beginning in 1998, and in the most recent three years I received annual royalties from those works that is less than the University’s benchmark for significant financial interest.

I signed a contract in 1991 with the University of Minnesota in which they acquired The Minnesota Report: Adolescent Interpretive System. Under my contracts, my co-author James Butcher and I receive 30% of the royalties (split equally between the two of us) the University receives from Pearson Assessments on sales of this system. I agreed to monitor, improve, and update the interpretive system as needed, and the University agreed to provide clerical and research assistant support for these tasks. In addition, since 1998, I have received 5% of the author’s royalties for the Adult Clinical System for my consultation on changes to that system. The Minnesota Reports are the best-selling computerized MMPI interpretive system currently offered by the University. In total, the
royalties I receive exceed the University’s definition of significant financial interest. My royalty payments come directly from the University of Minnesota Press. Like the other MMPI-2 and MMPI-A authors, I do not receive any royalties from the sales of MMPI-2 or MMPI-A manuals, manual supplements, scales, scoring materials, and the like (i.e., in my case these include the MMPI-A items I wrote and the following I co-created: the MMPI-2 Content Scales scoring materials, profile sheets, and the like; the MMPI-A test booklet and manual, scoring materials, profile sheets, and the like, including for the two alcohol and drug problem scales [ACK and PRO], the MMPI-A Content Component Scales, and the MMPI-A PSY-5 Scales). Although I did not participate in the discussions or decisions made by the members of the MMPI Restandardization Committee to forgo any royalties on the new versions of the MMPI resulting from their work during the Restandardization Project, I chose to abide by their verbal agreement, assuming that this revenue would fund future R&D on the instruments. To the best of my knowledge, I own no stocks or bonds in companies publishing psychological tests. I have instructed my financial planners, in those cases where I am to influence purchase decisions, not to purchase interests in such companies. My husband, James N. Butcher, is also an author of several MMPI-2 and MMPI-A materials. His disclosure statement is available at http://mmpi.umn.edu/disclosure-statement-james-butcher.php

Send any questions/comments to: willi001@umn.edu