

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Research Agreement between the University of Michigan and ChemXLerate LLC

Action Requested: Authorization to amend an Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects while reviewing the Proposal Approval Form which then triggered a review by the UMOR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflict of interest was then developed and approved by the Committee and agreed to by the parties involved.

This proposed agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Adam Matzger and Dr. Antek Wong-Foy are employees of the University of Michigan (“University”), and partial owners of ChemXLerate LLC. The law permits such an Agreement provided it is disclosed to the Board of Regents (“Regents”) of the University of Michigan and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote.

Background:

Dr. Adam Matzger, a Professor in the Department of Chemistry, and Dr. Antek Wong-Foy, an Associate Research Scientist in the Department of Chemistry, are the partial owners of a for-profit company called ChemXLerate LLC (the “Company”). The Company wishes to amend a research agreement previously approved by the Regents on October 15, 2015 to include the proposal entitled, “Quality Testing of Organic Solids 2018-2020” (ORSP# 19-PAF03286) in the Department of Chemistry under the direction of Dr. Wong-Foy. The purpose of this amendment is to add funds to test compounds for chemical purity and material quality.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Amendment conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately two (2) years. The amount of funding support will be increased by \$26,619. Since research projects are often amended, this agreement includes a provision for changes in time and scope. University procedures for approval of these changes will be followed and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate.

Impact of the Agreement:

The amended Agreement will provide continued support of an effort by Dr. Wong-Foy to use his expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources, to prepare and test MOF synthesis grade N,N-diethylformamide.

Recommendations:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the UMOR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. In light of this disclosure and our finding that the Agreement was negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I recommend that the Board of Regents approve the University's amending this Agreement with ChemXLerate LLC.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Hu', is written over the typed name.

S. Jack Hu  
Vice President for Research

February 2019