

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents

March 18, 2010

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Agreement between the University of Michigan and the Sarcoma Alliance for Research through Collaboration

Action Requested: Authorization to enter into Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Division of Research Development and Administration while reviewing a Proposal Approval Form. This then triggered a review by Medical School's Conflict of Interest Board. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflict of interest was then developed and approved by the Board and agreed to by the parties involved.

This proposed Agreement ("Agreement") falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Dr. Laurence Baker is an employee of the University of Michigan ("University") and is also Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sarcoma Alliance for Research through Collaboration (SARC). The law permits such an Agreement provided it is disclosed to the executive officers and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote of the Regents of the University of Michigan.

Background:

Dr. Laurence Baker is Professor of Internal Medicine and a key person in SARC. SARC is a non-profit organization, organized in Michigan, for the purpose of facilitating research and clinical trials in sarcoma cancers.

This proposed Agreement would allow Dr. Rashmi Chugh, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, to provide to SARC the services of a "medical officer" on a part-time basis under the terms of a sponsored project. Dr. Chugh will not become an employee of SARC, and SARC will reimburse the University for the apportioned cost of its employee's salary, fringe benefits, and applicable indirect costs.

Agreement Terms:

The agreement with SARC contains standard procedures for performance of medical and scientific advisory and consultative services as well as provisions implementing University policies. The agreement covers approximately a five-

year period with an authorization for up to \$400,000. The University uses standard sponsored project accounting procedures to determine the cost of each project year. Budgets are reviewed and approved by authorized representatives of each department and school/college where the project is performed. Because agreements for projects of this nature are often amended, the agreement includes provisions for changes in time, amount, and scope of the advisory and consultation services to be provided. University procedures for approval of any changes will be followed and additional review by the Medical School's Conflict of Interest Board will be done as required.

Impact of the Agreement:

The agreement enables the University to provide scientific and medical guidance to SARC, advancing cross-disciplinary medical and clinical research in the prevention and treatment of sarcoma cancers.

Recommendation:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the Medical School's Conflict of Interest Board. In light of the disclosure made in this document and our finding that the agreement will be negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I recommend that the Board of Regents approve of the University entering into this agreement with Sarcoma Alliance for Research through Collaboration.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen R. Forrest
Vice President for Research

March 2010