

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Research Agreement between the University of Michigan and Orbital ATK, Inc.

Action Requested: Authorization to enter into 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 research agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Lennard Fisk is an employee of the University of Michigan (“University”), and a member of the Board of Directors of Orbital ATK, Inc. 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. Lennard Fisk, a Professor in the Department of Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering, is a member of the Board of Directors of a for-profit company called Orbital ATK, Inc. (the “Company”). The Company wishes to fund a project entitled “Development of Driver, Passenger, Side Airbag Inflator Component Software for CT Scan Images” (ORSP #18-PAF05577) in the Department of Surgery under the direction of Dr. Stewart Wang. The purpose of this project is to expand development of software to measure performance of airbag inflator models.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately five (5) months. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$120,000. 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 Agreement will support an effort by Dr. Wang to use his expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources, to expand the automatic extraction algorithm developed on previous projects funded by the Company.

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 entering into this Agreement with Orbital ATK, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Hu', is positioned above the printed name.

S. Jack Hu
Vice President for Research

March 2018