

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents
April 21, 2011

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Regental Action Required Under the State of
Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute

Action Requested: Authorization for the University to Purchase Books and Directories from
Jeannette Routhier (University of Michigan Employee and Collector)

Background:

The University of Michigan – Flint is requesting approval to purchase antique books and local out-of-print directories to enhance the collection of the Genesee Historical Collection Center. The Genesee Historical Collection Center, part of the University of Michigan Flint Library acquires books and manuscripts concerning local history. Jeannette Routhier is an antiquarian book collector and has within her collection several books and directories of local interest that the Library determined would enhance their collection. These books and directories are unique one-of-a-kind primary source materials and not readily available from other suppliers.

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Jeannette Routhier is a University employee as a Research Associate within the University of Michigan Flint Library and is a party to the purchase as owner of the books and directories. However, the Statute allows the University to enter into such contracts if the following conditions are met:

- a) The public servant promptly discloses any pecuniary interest in the contract to the official body which has power to approve the purchase, which disclosure shall be a matter of record in its official proceedings.
- b) The purchase is approved by a vote of not less than 2/3 of the full membership of the approving body in open session without the vote of the public servant making the disclosure.
- c) The official body discloses the following summary information in its official minutes:
 - i) The name of each party involved in the contract.
 - ii) The terms of the purchase, including duration, financial consideration between the parties, facilities or services of the public entity included in the purchase, and the nature and degree of assignment of employees of the public entity for fulfillment of the purchase.
 - iii) The nature of any pecuniary interest.


The following information is provided in compliance with the statutory requirements contained in Section (c):

- i) The parties involved in the agreement are the Regents of the University of Michigan, University of Michigan Flint Library and Jeanette Routhier.
- ii) The agreement is to purchase antiquarian books and directories that will enhance the historical significance of the Genesee Historical Collection Center which is part of the University of Michigan Flint Library for a total of \$115.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that Jeanette Routhier, University employee as Research Associate at the University of Michigan Flint Library, is the owner of the collection to be purchased by the Library.

Jeannette Routhier has met state law requirements with the disclosure of her pecuniary interest and formal appointment arrangements with the University of Michigan. Requirements, if any, that may be applicable under the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee's procedures are separately analyzed and managed.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the payments between the University of Michigan and Jeannette Routhier subject to requirements, if any, that either the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,


Timothy P. Slottow
Executive Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer

April 2011