THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

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

Action Requested: Authorization for the University to transact with Michigan Aerospace Corporation (University of Michigan Employee, Dr. Lennard A. Fisk, Owner).

Background:

The University of Michigan Business Engagement Center seeks approval to transact with Michigan Aerospace Corporation for summer internship support. Michigan Aerospace Corporation was selected based on their application to participate in the Michigan Corporate Relations Network internship program. Through a state funded grant, this program is designed to help small companies hire U-M interns for the summer and in turn help the State of Michigan’s economy.

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Dr. Lennard A. Fisk is a University employee as a Thomas M. Donahue Distinguished University Professor of Space Science, Professor of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Space Sciences, College of Engineering and Professor of Physics, College of LSA and would be a party to the contract as Owner of Michigan Aerospace Corporation.

However, the Statute allows the University to enter into such agreements 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) above:

i) The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its Business Engagement Center and Michigan Aerospace Corporation.

ii) The agreement is for summer intern support to take place over the summer of 2015 at a total cost to the University of $3,500.

iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employee, Dr. Lennard Fisk, is the Owner of Michigan Aerospace Corporation.

Dr. Lennard Fisk has met state law requirements with the disclosure of his 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 agreement between the University of Michigan and Michigan Aerospace Corporation subject to requirements, if any, that either the Medical School’s or OVPR’s Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin P. Hegarty
Executive Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer

May 2015