

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Subcontract Agreement between the University of Michigan and Svaati Scientific LLC

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 agreement ("Agreement") falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Mark Hammig is an employee of the University of Michigan ("University"), and a partial owner of Svaati Scientific 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. Mark Hammig, an Associate Research Scientist of Nuclear Engineering and Radiological Sciences in the College of Engineering, is a partial owner of a for-profit company called Svaati Scientific LLC (the "Company"). The Company wishes to fund a Department of Energy (prime) STTR Phase I project entitled "Compact, High Flux Neutron Source Driven by Ultrafast Laser Pulses" (ORSP #15-PAF04906) in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science under the direction of Dr. Almantas Galvanauskas. The purpose of this project is to attempt to develop a compact and portable laser-based isotropic neutron source operating at variable repetition rates of up to 100 kHz with the required neutron flux of greater than 10⁸ neutrons/second using the DD reaction. This approach is enabled by the development of laser-driven neutron sources and compact and high power laser driver technology.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately nine (9) months. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$90,000 dollars. Since research projects are often amended, this agreement includes provisions for changes in time, amount, 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. Galvanauskas to use his expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources to advance the state of the art in compact, portable nuclear detection technologies.

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 Svaati Scientific LLC.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu
Interim Vice President for Research

May 2015