

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Research Agreement between the University of Michigan and MedSyn Biopharma, 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 Medical School 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 research agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professors Arul Chinnaiyan, Shaomeng Wang and Gilbert Omenn are employees of the University of Michigan (“University”) and partial owners of MedSyn Biopharma LLC (“MedSyn”). 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:

Arul Chinnaiyan, PhD, a Professor in the Departments of Pathology and Urology, Medical School, Shaomeng Wang, PhD, a Professor in the Departments of Internal Medicine and Pharmacology, Medical School, and Medicinal Chemistry, College of Pharmacy, and Gilbert Omenn, MD, PhD, a Professor in the Departments of Computational Medicine and Bioinformatics, Human Genetics, and Internal Medicine, Medical School, and Public Health, are partial owners of a for-profit company called MedSyn (the “Company”). The Company wishes to fund a project entitled “Targeting Protein Degradation for New Therapeutics” (ORSP# 16-PAF06726) in Internal Medicine, under the direction of Dr. Wang. The purpose of this project is to support the further development and testing of inhibitors for the treatment of human cancer, which will enable further development and application of the licensed technology.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately five (5) years. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$800,000. 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.

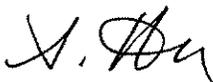
Impact of the Agreement

The Agreement will support an effort by Dr. Shaomeng Wang to use his expertise and University laboratory, as well as other resources to further develop, screen and test important, novel cancer therapeutic compounds.

Recommendations:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the Medical School Conflict of Interest Board. 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 MedSyn Biopharma, LLC.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu
Vice President for Research

June 2016