Subject: License Agreement between the University of Michigan and Edington Associates, LLC

Action Requested: Approval of License Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Office of Technology Transfer while reviewing the technology transfer agreement that then triggered a review by the OVPR 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 this Committee and agreed to by the parties involved in this plan.

This proposed license agreement ("Agreement") falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Dee Edington is both an employee of the University of Michigan ("University") and a partial owner of Edington Associates, LLC. The law permits such an Agreement provided it is disclosed to the executive officers and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote of the Regents of the University of Michigan.

Background:

Dr. Edington, a professor in Kinesiology, is the partial owner of a for-profit company called Edington Associates, LLC (the "Company"). The Company was formed recently to commercialize health risk assessment programs and desires to license from the University of Michigan the University's rights associated with the following technology:

UM OTT File No. 5019, entitled: "Employee Perception of a Culture of Health" (Edington, Susan Hagen, Ambyr Brooks, Mary Marzel)

UM OTT File No. 5044, entitled: "Health Risk Appraisal System" (Edington, Chi-Fung Chen Lu, Lixin Yan, Stephen Kinzler)

The Office of Technology Transfer selected the Company as a University partner and negotiated the terms of the proposed Agreement in accordance with University policy and its accepted licensing principles.

Parties to the Agreement:

The Regents of the University of Michigan and Edington Associates, LLC.
Agreement Terms Include:

Agreement terms include granting the Company a non-exclusive license. The Company will pay a royalty on sales and reimburse any patent or copyright costs. The University will retain ownership of the licensed technology and may continue to further develop it and use it internally. No use of University services or facilities, nor any assignment of University employees, is obligated or contemplated under the Agreement. Standard disclaimers of warranties and indemnification apply, and the Agreement may be amended by consent of the parties, such as adding related technologies. University procedures for approval of these changes will be followed and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate.

Pecuniary Interest:

The pecuniary interests of Dr. Edington arise from his ownership interest in Edington Associates, LLC.

Net Effect:

The Office of Technology Transfer has negotiated and finalized the terms of a worldwide non-exclusive license agreement for patents and copyrighted material related to UM OTT Files No. 5019, 5044, 5045, 5046, 5047, and 5048 for all fields of use.

Edington Associates, LLC will obtain use and commercialization rights to the above listed University technology.

Recommendations:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the OVPR 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 License Agreement between the University and Edington Associates, LLC.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Forrest
Vice President for Research

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