

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Subcontract Agreement between the University of Michigan and Stryd

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 UMR 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 Robert Dick is an employee of the University of Michigan ("University"), and a partial owner and CEO of Stryd. 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. Robert Dick, an Associate Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, is a partial owner and CEO of a for-profit company called Stryd (the "Company"). The Company wishes to fund a National Science Foundation (prime) STTR Phase I project entitled "Providing Real Time Feedback on the Bone Density Implications of Physical Exercise to Osteoporosis and Osteopenia Patients" (ORSP# 16-PAF07909) in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science under the direction of Dr. Jamie Phillips. The purpose of this project is to develop the models necessary to translate from research literature and metrics sensed via wearable sensors into estimates of resulting bone density changes.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately six (6) months. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$33,750. Since research projects are often amended, this agreement includes provisions 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. Phillips to use his expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources, to develop the models necessary to translate from research literature and metrics sensed via wearable sensors into estimates of resulting bone density changes.

## 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 Stryd.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu  
Vice President for Research

October 2016