

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the  
Regents  
November 19, 2015

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Reassignment Agreement between the University of Michigan and Yifang Chen

Action Requested: Approval of Reassignment 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 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 this Board and agreed to by the parties involved in this plan.

This proposed reassignment agreement ("Agreement") falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Mr. Yifang Chen is an employee of the University of Michigan ("University") and is seeking reassignment of technology owned by the University. 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:

Mr. Yifang Chen, a Physician Assistant in the Department of Radiology, has asked to have the technology below assigned to him personally:

UM OTT File No. 6634, entitled: "A New Venous Port" (Inventor: Yifang Chen)

The Office of Technology Transfer has negotiated the terms of the proposed Agreement in accordance with University policy and its accepted principles related to reassignment procedures.

Parties to the Agreement:

The Regents of the University of Michigan and Yifang Chen.

Agreement Terms Include:

Agreement terms include assigning to Mr. Yifang Chen the University's rights in the technology and patent rights related to the above-referenced OTT file. Mr. Yifang Chen will pay all future patent costs and pay to the University a percentage of any royalty revenue he receives from licensing or commercializing the technology.

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. 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 Mr. Yifang Chen arise from his ownership interest in the technology.

Net Effect:

The Office of Technology Transfer has negotiated and finalized the terms of a reassignment agreement for content related to UM OTT File No. 6634 for all fields of use. Mr. Yifang Chen will obtain use and commercialization rights to the above listed University technology.

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 Reassignment Agreement between the University and Mr. Yifang Chen.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu  
Interim Vice President for Research

November 2015