

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Sponsored Activity Agreement between the University of Michigan and Applied Morphomics, Inc.

Action Requested: Authorization to amend an 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 sponsored activity agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Stewart C. Wang is an employee of the University of Michigan (“University”), and a partial owner of Applied Morphomics, Inc. (“AMI”). 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:

Stewart Wang, MD, PhD, a Professor in the Department of Surgery, Medical School, is the partial owner of a for-profit company called AMI (the “Company”). The Company wishes to amend a proposed sponsored activity agreement previously approved by the Regents on July 19, 2018 entitled, “Data Transfer to Applied Morphomics,” (ORSP #18-PAF08141) in the Department of Surgery under the direction of Dr. Stewart Wang. The purpose of this amendment is to add funding and extend the project period to facilitate the transfer of a limited data set necessary to utilize an existing piece of University owned intellectual property (OTT File #4834) as part of an exclusive license agreement with AMI.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Amendment conform to University policy. The period of performance is being extended for an additional four (4) years. The amount of funding support will be increased by \$83,000 and will not exceed \$90,000. 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 amended Agreement will provide continued support for effort by Dr. Wang, as well as other university resources, to prepare, assemble, and transmit the data.

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 amending this Agreement with Applied Morphomics, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu  
Vice President for Research

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