

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents  
January 17, 2008

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Regental Action Required Under the State of  
Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute

Action  
Requested: Authorization for the University to Approve a Purchase from MIDTW  
LLC (University of Michigan Employee Christian Unverzagt, Member)

Background:

The University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture + Urban Planning (TCAUP) seeks approval to purchase design services from MIDTW for production of various communications supporting publications, website recruitment and alumni relations. MIDTW was selected because they are the only outside source that is familiar with TCAUP's mission and culture.

The proposed purchase falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Christian Unverzagt is a University employee and would be a party to the contract by virtue of his role as a member of MIDTW. However, the Statute allows the University to enter into such contracts if the following conditions are met:

- a) The public servant promptly discloses any pecuniary interest in the contract to the official body which has power to approve the purchase, which disclosure shall be a matter of record in its official proceedings.
- b) The purchase is approved by a vote of not less than 2/3 of the full membership of the approving body in open session without the vote of the public servant making the disclosure.
- c) The official body discloses the following summary information in its official minutes:
  - i) The name of each party involved in the contract.
  - ii) The terms of the purchase, including duration, financial consideration between the parties, facilities or services of the public entity included in the purchase, and the nature and degree of assignment of employees of the public entity for fulfillment of the purchase. The nature of any pecuniary interest.

The following information is provided in compliance with the statutory requirements contained in Section (c) above:

- i) The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its Taubman College of Architecture + Urban Planning and M1DTW.
- ii) The purchase is design services of various Michigan Architecture Papers books, UMA marketing materials and website construction, and research and redesign of three issues of the alumni newsletter, Portico. The estimated overall cost of these services is \$58,928.47.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that Christian Unverzagt, a University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture + Urban Planning employee as a Lecturer II, is a member of M1DTW.

Christian Unverzagt has met state law requirements with the disclosure of his pecuniary interest and formal appointment arrangements with the University of Michigan. Requirements, if any, that may be applicable under the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee's procedures are separately analyzed and managed.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the payment between the University of Michigan and M1DTW subject to requirements, if any, that either the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy P. Slottow  
Executive Vice President  
and Chief Financial Officer

January 2008