

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Research Agreement between the University of Michigan and  
Chalmers J. Lyons Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

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 UMOR 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 research agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Brent Ward is an employee of the University of Michigan (“University”), and Treasurer of the Board of Directors for Chalmers J. Lyons Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (“Chalmers J. Lyons Academy”). 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. Brent Ward, an Associate Professor in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, is the Treasurer of the Board of Directors of a non-profit academy called Chalmers J. Lyons Academy (the “Company”). The Company wishes to fund a project entitled “Use of Remotely Controlled Mandibular Positioner (RCMP) to Predict Treatment Outcomes of Maxillomandibular Advancement Surgery for Obstructive Sleep Apnea” (ORSP# 19-PAF03914) in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery under the direction of Dr. Sharon Aronovich. The purpose of this project is to analyze whether or not RCMP titration study can predict the outcomes of maxillomandibular advancement surgery.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately one (1) year. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$25,000. 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 Agreement will support an effort by Dr. Aronovich to use her expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources, to analyze whether or not RCMP titration study can predict the outcomes of maxillomandibular advancement surgery.

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 Chalmers J. Lyons Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Jack Hu', is written over the typed name.

S. Jack Hu  
Vice President for Research

February 2019