

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents

March 19, 2009

ACTION REQUEST

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

Action Requested: Authorization for the University to make a Payment to Harriet Tubman Center for Recruitment and Development of Organizers (University of Michigan Employee Gregory Markus, Chairman of the Board of Directors)

Background:

The University of Michigan Division of Student Affairs Ginsberg Center ("Ginsberg Center") seeks approval to make a payment to the Harriet Tubman Center for Recruitment and Development of Organizers ("Harriet Tubman Center") for conducting a workshop on community organizing. The Harriet Tubman Center was selected because it is uniquely qualified to lead this type of workshop.

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Gregory Markus is a University employee and would be a party to the contract by virtue of his position as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Harriet Tubman Center. 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.
 - iii) 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 Division of Student Affairs Ginsberg Center and the Harriet Tubman Center.

- ii) The payment is for two facilitators from the Harriet Tubman Center to lead a workshop on community organizing at East Quadrangle on January 31, 2009. Total payment is \$800.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employee Gregory Markus as Professor of Political Science in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Harriet Tubman Center.

Mr. Markus has met state law requirements with the disclosure of his pecuniary interests 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 from the University of Michigan to the Harriet Tubman Center, 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

March 2009