

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Sponsored Activity Agreement between the University of Michigan and transSMART Foundation

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 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 agreement ("Agreement") falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professors Brian Athey, Gilbert Omenn, and Mr. Kevin Smith are employees of the University of Michigan ("University"), and serve in leadership positions of transSMART Foundation ("transSMART"). 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:

Brian Athey, Ph.D., a Professor of Computational Medicine and Bioinformatics, Psychiatry, and Internal Medicine at the Medical School, is the Chief Science Officer and Member of the Board of Directors of a non-profit organization called transSMART (the "Company"). Gilbert Omenn, M.D., Ph.D., the Director of, and Professor in, the Center for Computational Medicine and Bioinformatics and a Professor in the Departments of Internal Medicine/Molecular Medicine & Genetics Human Genetics at the Medical School and the School of Public Health, is the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Company. Kevin Smith, Information Technology Director in the Department of Computational Medicine and Bioinformatics at the Medical School, is the Community Manager and Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Company. The Company wishes to fund a project entitled "Supporting the Open Science transSMART Community" (ORSP# 15-PAF03181) in the Computational Medicine and Bioinformatics Department under the direction of Dr. Brian Athey. The purpose of this project is to provide the services of U of M personnel, Mr. Kevin Smith to perform in his U-M role as Secretary and Chief Operating Officer of transSMART, and Dr. Terry Weymouth to perform in his U-M role as Platform Release Coordinator of transSMART.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately 12 months. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$166,738. Since projects are often amended, this agreement includes provisions for changes in time, amount, and scope. University procedures

for approval of these changes will be followed and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate.

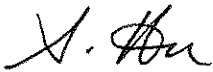
Impact of the Agreement

The Agreement will support an effort by Kevin Smith and Terry Weymouth to use their expertise and University resources to perform their duties in the aforementioned roles.

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 will be negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I recommend that the Board of Regents approve the University's entering into this Agreement with transSMART Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu  
Interim Vice President for Research

March 2015