

# The University of Michigan Regents Communication

## Request for Action

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

#### **Action Requested: Authorization for the university to contract with Detroit Dance Collective (University of Michigan Employee, Emma Davis, Executive Director)**

#### **Background:**

The University of Michigan Flint Department of Fine and Performing Arts seeks approval to contract with Detroit Dance Collective to create choreographed performances for the UM-Flint dance students for the Winter 2026 semester.

The proposed contract falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Emma Davis is employed by the University as a Collegiate Lecturer II with Flint Fine and Performing Arts and would be a party to the contract as executive director of Detroit Dance Collective.

However, the Statute allows the university to enter into such contracts if the following conditions are met:

- 1) 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.
- 2) 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.
- 3) The official body discloses the following summary information in its official minutes:
  - a) The name of each party involved in the contract.
  - b) 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.
  - c) The nature of any pecuniary interest.

The following information is provided in compliance with the statutory requirements contained in Section (3) above:

- a) The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and Flint Department of Fine and Performing Arts and Detroit Dance Collective.
- b) The contract is for eight months at a total cost not to exceed \$7,600. Detroit Dance Collective will supply the necessary resources and personnel to fulfill this contract. The remaining base contract terms and conditions are typical to those used in Procurement Services standard templates for other similar contracts entered into by the Regents.
- c) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employee, Emma Davis, is executive director of Detroit Dance Collective.

Emma Davis 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 by the supervisor of Emma Davis under the Flint Department of Fine and Performing Arts or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee's procedures are separately analyzed and managed.

**We recommend** that the Board of Regents approve the contract between the University of Michigan and Detroit Dance Collective subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisor of Emma Davis or the Flint Department of Fine and Performing Arts or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,



**Robert A. Hewlett III**  
Interim Executive Vice President  
and Chief Financial Officer

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