

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

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

Action Requested: Authorization for the University to enter into an agreement with Morph  
Biosciences, LLC (University of Michigan Employee, David C. Olson, Owner).

Background:

The University of Michigan Medical School Office of Research - Fast Forward Medical Innovation (FFMI) seeks approval to enter into an agreement with Morph Biosciences, LLC for a three year FFMI fullPACE program in which David C. Olson is lead instructor. The program is designed to teach UMMS faculty, medical residents and fellows biomedical innovation and entrepreneurship through experiential learning in small multidisciplinary teams.

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as David C. Olson is a University employee as Adjunct Instructor and Lecturer in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology and would be party to the agreement as Owner of Morph Biosciences, LLC.

However, the Statute allows the University to enter into such agreements 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 Medical School Office of Research - Fast Forward Medical Innovation (FFMI) and Morph Biosciences, LLC.
- ii) The agreement is for a duration of three years at a total cost not to exceed \$135,000. Morph Biosciences, LLC will be supplying all 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.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employee, David C. Olson, is Owner of Morph Biosciences, LLC.

David C. Olson 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 David C. Olson, 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 agreement between the University of Michigan and Morph Biosciences, LLC subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisor of David C. Olson or the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin F. Hegarty", is written over the typed name and title. The signature is stylized with large loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kevin F. Hegarty  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

June 2019