

The University of Michigan Regents Communication

Request for Action

Subject: Commercialization Agreements with the University

Action Requested: Approval of Commercialization Agreements

Preamble:

Statutory conflicts of interest situations were identified by Innovation Partnerships while reviewing commercialization agreements that then triggered a review by the Medical School Conflict of Interest Board ("Board") and/or the OVPR Conflict of Interest Committee ("Committee"). Plans for management of the possible risks associated with the conflicts of interest will be developed and approved by the Board and/or Committee and may require agreement by the parties involved.

These proposed commercialization agreements ("Agreements") fall under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because employees of the University of Michigan ("University") have outside activities, relationships, or interests in the companies described in Attachment A. The law permits such Agreements provided they are disclosed to the Board of Regents ("Regents") of the University and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote.

Background:

These companies were formed to commercialize University technologies and desire to option, license, or reassign the University's rights associated with them. Innovation Partnerships selected these companies as University partners and negotiated the terms of the proposed agreements in accordance with University policy and its accepted licensing principles.

Agreement Terms Include:

The University will retain ownership of the optioned, licensed, or reassigned technologies and may continue to further develop and use them internally. No use of University services or facilities, nor any assignment of University employees, is obligated or contemplated under the Agreements. Standard disclaimers of warranties and indemnification apply, and the Agreements may be amended by consent of the parties, such as adding related technology. University procedures for approval of these changes will be followed, and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate. Terms specific to each Agreement are described in Attachment A

Net Effect:

Innovation Partnerships has negotiated and finalized the terms of the option, license, or reassignment agreements for patents, technology, or content related to University technologies for particular fields of use. The companies will obtain the right to evaluate, use, and/or commercialize the University technologies. The net effects specific to each Agreement are described in Attachment A.

Recommendations:

These matters have been reviewed and approved by the Board and/or the Committee. In light of this disclosure and our finding that the Agreements were negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I recommend that the Board of Regents approve the Agreements between the University and the companies outlined in Attachment A.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Arthur Lupia", written in dark ink.

Arthur Lupia

Vice President for Research and Innovation

July 2026

Attachment

Attachment A

Agreement #1

License Agreement between the University and Aptix Bio Corporation

Reviewed by the Medical School Conflict of Interest Board

Background:

Aptix Bio Corporation was formed to commercialize IP products for optimizing digital pathology via improved image handling capabilities including optimized file and image compression, optimized image handling, viewing and storage for efficient and user optimize slide management and desires to license the University's rights associated with the technology listed above.

Innovation Partnerships Intellectual Property File Information:

- **Number:** 2022-199
 - **Title:** Iris Whole Slide Imaging -- Rapid Tile Buffering
 - **Inventors:** Ryan Landvater
- **Number:** 2023-293
 - **Title:** LZGD: Massively parallel GPU based compression mechanism
 - **Inventors:** Ryan Landvater, Ulysses J. Balis
- **Number:** 2025-482
 - **Title:** Iris Digital Pathology Deterministic Network Image Compression
 - **Inventors:** Ryan Landvater, Ulysses J. Balis

Net Effects:

- Worldwide exclusive
- Patents
- All Fields of use
- Right to commercialize

Agreement Terms:

Aptix Bio Corporation will:

- Obtain the right to grant sublicenses
- Reimburse patent costs

The University will:

- Retain ownership of the licensed technology
- Receive equity in Aptix Bio Corporation
- Retain the right to purchase more equity in Aptix Bio Corporation

University Employee; University Title; Relationship with Aptix Bio Corporation:

- Ryan S. Landvater, MD; House Officer VI, Pathology; Partial Owner

Agreement #2

License Agreement between the University and AureSeal, Inc.

Reviewed by the Medical School Conflict of Interest Board and the OVPR Conflict of Interest Committee

Background:

AureSeal, Inc. was formed to commercialize an atrial appendage closure device and desires to license the University's rights associated with the technology listed below.

Innovation Partnerships Intellectual Property File Information:

- **Number:** 4872
 - **Title:** Device for Left Atrial Appendage Closure for Prevention of Thromboembolic Events and ECG and Hemodynamic Monitoring
 - **Inventors:** Fred Morady, Hakan Oral
- **Number:** 2026-646
 - **Title:** Atraumatic Radiolucent Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion System Featuring the Hydraulic Deployment of a Conformal Surface Patch using Surgical Adhesive
 - **Inventors:** Hakan Oral, Grant Kruger

Net Effects:

- Worldwide exclusive
- Patents
- All fields of use
- Right to commercialize

Agreement Terms:

AureSeal, Inc. will:

- Obtain the right to grant sublicenses
- Pay a royalty on sales
- Reimburse patent costs

The University will:

- Receive equity in AureSeal, Inc.
- Retain the right to purchase more equity in AureSeal, Inc.

University Employee; University Title; Relationship with AureSeal, Inc.:

- Hakan Oral; Professor, Cardiovascular Medicine; Partial Owner
- Fred Morady; Professor, Cardiovascular Disease; Partial Owner
- Grant Kruger; Associate Research Scientist, Mechanical Engineering; Partial Owner

Agreement #3

License Agreement between the University and Controlled Light Inc.

Reviewed by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Committee

Background:

Controlled Light Inc. was formed to commercialize coherently combined nanosecond and femtosecond pulsed fiber laser technology and desires to license the University's rights associated with the technology listed below.

Innovation Partnerships Intellectual Property File Information:

- **Number:** 4303
 - **Title:** Spatial-Dispersion-Free Spectral Combining of Pulsed High Peak Power Fiber Laser Beams for EUV Lithography Applications
 - **Inventors:** Almantas Galvanauskas, Kai-Chung Hou
- **Number:** 5861
 - **Title:** Coherent Combining of N Parallel Pulse Bursts with N²-Times Enhancement in Combined-Pulse Energy
 - **Inventors:** Almantas Galvanauskas
- **Number:** 2020-102
 - **Title:** Spectrally-Coherently Combined Fiber Laser Array for Synthesizing Power and Energy Scalable Bandwidth-Limited Flat-top Picosecond Pulses
 - **Inventors:** Almantas Galvanauskas, Theodore Mathew Whittlesey
- **Number:** 2024-620
 - **Title:** Energy scalable compact nonlinear compressors of ultrashort pulses utilizing thin solid plates as nonlinear lenses in multipass optical cavities
 - **Inventors:** Almantas Galvanauskas, Tayari LeRoy Coleman
- **Number:** 2024-621
 - **Title:** Nonlinear Multi-Pass Cavity Based Devices for Enhancing Optical Pulse Contrast
 - **Inventors:** Almantas Galvanauskas, Michael Garner
- **Number:** 2024-177
 - **Title:** Method of producing equal shape and duration pulse bursts from a gain-managed nonlinear fiber amplifier
 - **Inventors:** Almantas Galvanauskas

Net Effects:

- Worldwide exclusive
- Patents
- All fields of use
- Right to commercialize

Agreement Terms:

Controlled Light Inc. will:

- Obtain the right to grant sublicenses
- Pay a royalty on sales

- Reimburse patent costs

The University will:

- Receive equity in Controlled Light Inc.
- Retain the right to purchase more equity in Controlled Light Inc.

University Employee; University Title; Relationship with Controlled Light Inc.:

- Almantas Galvanauskas; Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science – Electrical and Computer Engineering (EECS-ECE) Division; Partial Owner

Agreement #4

License Agreement between the University and DASH Tech Integrated Circuits, Inc.

Reviewed by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Committee

Background:

DASH Tech Integrated Circuits, Inc. was formed to commercialize technologies introducing new system-onchip (SoCs) that enable both field programmable gate arrays (FPGA)-like flexibility and application-specific integrated circuits (ASIC)-like energy efficiency for a wide range of applications and desires to license the University's rights associated with the technology listed below.

Innovation Partnerships Intellectual Property File Information:

- **Number:** 2023-084
 - **Title:** Domain Adaptive Processor for Wireless Communication and Linear-Algebra Kernels
 - **Inventors:** Hun Seok Kim, David Blaauw, Kuan-Yu Chen
- **Number:** 2023-099
 - **Title:** A Unified Forward Error Correction Accelerator for Multi-Mode Decoding
 - **Inventors:** Hun Seok Kim, David Blaauw, Yufan Yue
- **Number:** 2024-168
 - **Title:** Configurable Parallel Baseband Processor for Ultra-High-Speed Inter-Satellite Optical Communications
 - **Inventors:** Hun Seok Kim, David Blaauw, Seungkyu Choi, Huanshihong, Xiangdong Wei
- **Number:** 2024-179
 - **Title:** Reconfigurable Galois Field Forward Error Correction Decoder for Optical Inter-Satellite Communication
 - **Inventors:** Hun Seok Kim, David Blaauw, Yufan Yue, Xiangdong Wei

Net Effects:

- Exclusive (United States, Canada, European Patent Office, Israel, Japan, and Korea only)
- Patents
- All fields of use
- Right to commercialize

Agreement Terms:

DASH Tech Integrated Circuits, Inc. will:

- Obtain the right to grant sublicenses
- Pay a royalty on sales
- Reimburse patent costs

The University will:

- Receive equity in DASH Tech Integrated Circuits, Inc.

University Employee; University Title; Relationship with DASH Tech Integrated Circuits, Inc.:

- David Blaauw; Professor, EECS-ECE Division; Partial Owner
- Hun Seok Kim; Associate Professor, EECS-ECE Division; Partial Owner

Agreement #5

License Agreement between the University and EmPowered Teaching Initiative

Reviewed by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Committee

Background:

EmPowered Teaching Initiative was formed to commercialize the ViewPoint platform, a software solution for powering engaged learning through role-based simulations in online, hybrid and in-person educational settings, and simulation content to promote the adoption of engaged teaching approaches and desires to license the University's rights associated with the technology listed below.

Innovation Partnerships Intellectual Property File Information:

- **Number:** 7228
 - **Title:** Viewpoint (f/k/a Policymaker)
 - **Inventors:** Elizabeth Gerber
- **Number:** 2023-201
 - **Title:** Center for Academic Innovation - Learning Tools Interoperability Client
 - **Inventors:** Michael Wheeler
- **Number:** 2023-202
 - **Title:** Center for Academic Innovation - Synchronized Data Models
 - **Inventors:** Ben Hayward
- **Number:** 2023-203
 - **Title:** Center for Academic Innovation - Core Components Library
 - **Inventors:** Ben Hayward
- **Number:** 2023-204
 - **Title:** Center for Academic Innovation - Event Tracking Module
 - **Inventors:** Dennis O'Reilly, Ben Hayward

Net Effects:

- Worldwide exclusive
- Copyrights
- All fields of use
- Right to commercialize

Agreement Terms:

EmPowered Teaching Initiative will:

- Obtain the right to grant sublicenses
- Pay a royalty on sales

The University may:

- Receive equity in EmPowered Teaching Initiative

University Employee; University Title; Relationship with EmPowered Teaching Initiative:

- Elisabeth Gerber; Professor, Public Policy; Partial Owner
- Mary Jo Cartwright; New Product Planning Manager/Mentor-In-Residence, Innovation Partnerships; Officer, Board of Directors

Agreement #6

Option Agreement between the University and Motaris Inc.

Reviewed by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Committee

Background:

Motaris Inc. was formed to develop and commercialize powered lower-limb exoskeleton technology for workers in physically demanding logistics roles and desires to option the University's rights associated with the technology listed below.

Innovation Partnerships Intellectual Property File Information:

- **Number:** 2021-069
 - **Title:** Virtual Body-Weight Support via Lower-Limb Exoskeleton
 - **Inventors:** Robert Gregg
- **Number:** 2021-178
 - **Title:** Lower Limb Powered Orthosis with Low Ratio Actuation
 - **Inventors:** Robert Gregg
- **Number:** 2021-179
 - **Title:** Powered Orthosis with Combined Motor and Gear Technology
 - **Inventors:** Robert Gregg
- **Number:** 2021-180
 - **Title:** Total Energy Shaping for Task-Invariant Control of Exoskeleton
 - **Inventors:** Robert Gregg
- **Number:** 2023-572
 - **Title:** A Modular Framework for Task-Invariant, Energy Shaping Control of Lower-Limb Exoskeletons
 - **Inventors:** Robert Gregg
- **Number:** 2024-236
 - **Title:** A Task-Adaptive Knee Exoskeleton Controller for Lifting, Lowering, and Carrying over Terrains
 - **Inventors:** Robert Gregg
- **Number:** 2025-533
 - **Title:** Optimal Energy Shaping and Force Amplification Framework for Task-Agnostic, Biomimetic Ankle Exoskeletons
 - **Inventors:** Robert Gregg

Net Effects:

- Worldwide exclusive
- Patents
- All fields of use
- Evaluation only

Agreement Terms:

Motaris Inc. will:

- Pay an upfront fee

University Employee; University Title; Relationship with Motaris Inc.:

- Robert Gregg; Professor, EECS-ECE Division; Partial Owner

Agreement #7

License Agreement between the University and Noumion Inc.

Reviewed by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Committee

Background:

Noumion Inc. was formed to commercialize an AI-based platform related to industrial processes and product development to accelerate engineering design in mission-critical environments and desires to license the University's rights associated with the technology listed below.

Innovation Partnerships Intellectual Property File Information:

- **Number:** 2026-625
 - **Title:** MachOne
 - **Inventors:** Venkat Raman, Vansh Sharma

Net Effects:

- Worldwide exclusive
- Copyrights
- All fields of use
- Right to commercialize

Agreement Terms:

Noumion Inc. will:

- Obtain the right to grant sublicenses

The University will:

- Receive equity in Noumion Inc.

The University may:

- Retain the right to purchase more equity in Noumion Inc.

University Employee; University Title; Relationship with Noumion Inc.:

- Venkat Raman; Professor, Aerospace Engineering; Partial Owner
- Vansh Sharma; Graduate Student Research Assistant, Aerospace Engineering; Partial Owner

Agreement #8

License Agreement between the University and Post Rock, Inc.

Reviewed by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Committee

Background:

Post Rock, Inc. was formed to commercialize the technology to create building facade panels using recycled content and desires to license the University's rights associated with the technology listed below.

Innovation Partnerships Intellectual Property File Information:

- **Number:** 7743
 - **Title:** Monolithic Thermocasting of Polymer Mixtures for Architectural Applications
 - **Inventors:** Thom Moran, Meredith Miller, Simon Anton, Rachel Mulder

Net Effects:

- Worldwide exclusive
- Patents
- All fields of use
- Right to commercialize

Agreement Terms:

Post Rock, Inc. will:

- Obtain the right to grant sublicenses
- Pay a royalty on sales
- Reimburse patent costs

The University will:

- Receive equity in Post Rock, Inc.

The University may:

- Retain the right to purchase more equity in Post Rock, Inc.

University Employee; University Title; Relationship with Post Rock, Inc.:

- Meredith Miller; Associate Professor, Architecture; Partial Owner
- Thom Moran; Associate Professor, Architecture; Partial Owner

Agreement #9

License Agreement between the University and Rainier AI, Inc.

Reviewed by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Committee

Background:

Rainier AI, Inc. was formed to commercialize software that accelerates analog integrated circuit design using AI and desires to license the University's rights associated with the technology listed below.

Innovation Partnerships Intellectual Property File Information:

- **Number:** 2024-061
 - **Title:** AnGeL: Fully-Automated Analog Circuit Generator Using a Neural Network Assisted Semi-supervised Learning Approach
 - **Inventors:** Ja Ehsan Afshari, Ronald Dreslinski Jr, Morteza Fayazi, Morteza Tavakoli Taba

Net Effects:

- Worldwide exclusive
- Patents
- All fields of use
- Right to commercialize

Agreement Terms:

Rainier AI, Inc. will:

- Obtain the right to grant sublicenses
- Pay a royalty on sales
- Reimburse patent costs

The University will:

- Receive equity in Rainier AI, Inc.

University Employee; University Title; Relationship with Rainier AI, Inc.:

- Ehsan Afshari; Professor, EECS-ECE Division; Partial Owner