

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents
September 18, 2008

ACTION REQUEST

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

Action Requested: Authorization for the University to Purchase from Wesley B. Tanner (University
of Michigan Employee Wesley B. Tanner, Individual)

Background:

The University of Michigan Special Collections Library (SCL) seeks approval to purchase a limited edition book from Wesley B. Tanner. SCL is responsible for acquiring fine, handmade books published locally. *The Red Wheelbarrow* is a book length poem by Jack Spicer with color woodcut illustrations by Mr. Tanner. This book was selected for the quality of the artwork and handbinding, and is only available from Mr. Tanner.

The proposed purchase falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Wesley B. Tanner is a University employee and would be a party to the purchase as the recipient of payment for goods. However, the Statute allows the University to make such payments 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:

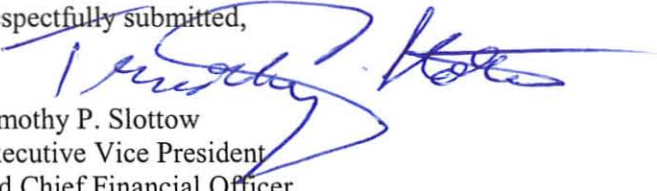
- i) The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its Special Collections Library and Wesley B. Tanner.

- ii) The purchase is one of a limited 25 editions of *The Red Wheelbarrow* by Jack Spicer and Wesley B. Tanner. The cost of this 44 page handmade book is \$2,000 plus shipping.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that Wesley B. Tanner, University of Michigan employee as a Web Designer for the Biological Chemistry Department, will receive payment as an individual.

Wesley B. Tanner 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 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 by the University of Michigan to Wesley B. Tanner 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

September 2008