

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Sponsored Activity Agreement between the University of Michigan and The American Society for Virology, Inc.

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 sponsored activity agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Katherine Spindler is an employee of the University of Michigan (“University”), and the Secretary-Treasurer of The American Society for Virology, Inc. (“ASV”). 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:

Katherine Spindler, PhD, a Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, is the Secretary-Treasurer of a non-profit organization called ASV (“the Company”). The Company wishes to fund a sponsored activity entitled “American Society for Virology” (ORSP #17-PAF04464) in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology for Dr. Spindler’s effort as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Company and to move the Company’s office to the University of Michigan Medical School.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance is approximately five (5) years. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$685,530. Since such agreements are often amended, this agreement includes a provision for changes in time 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 Dr. Spindler to use her expertise and University resources to oversee the operations of the ASV office as Secretary-Treasurer.

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 was negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I recommend that the Board of Regents approve the University's entering into this Agreement with The American Society for Virology, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu
Vice President for Research

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