

**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 Runestone Academy Ltd (University of Michigan Employee, Paul Resnick, Director).

Background:

The University of Michigan School of Information seeks approval to enter into an agreement with Runestone Academy Ltd to provide career ebook project services.

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Paul Resnick is a University employee as Associate Dean for Research with the School of Information and would be party to the contract as director of Runestone Academy Ltd.

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.

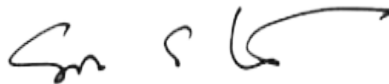
The following information is provided in compliance with the statutory requirements contained in Section (c) above:

- i) The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its School of Information and Runestone Academy Ltd.
- ii) The agreement is for a duration of four years at a total cost not to exceed \$80,000. Runestone Academy Ltd will be supplying all the necessary resources and personnel to fulfill this contract. The remaining base contract terms and conditions were tailored to meet the particular needs of this contract and have been approved by Procurement Services after advice from the Office of General Counsel.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employee, Paul Resnick, is director of Runestone Academy Ltd.

Paul Resnick 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 Paul Resnick, 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 Runestone Academy Ltd subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisor of Paul Resnick or the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoffrey S. Chatas  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

September 2022