## THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS COMMUNICATION

## ACTION REQUEST

## Subject:Regental Action Required Under the State of Michigan Conflict of<br/>Interest StatuteAction Requested:Authorization for the University to transact with the Society for the<br/>Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) (University of Michigan<br/>Employee Germine (Gigi) Awad, Co-Chair for the conference).

## Background:

The University of Michigan Department of Psychology seeks approval to transact with SPSSI for their conference.

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Germine (Gigi) Awad is a University employee as Diversity and Social Transformation Professor and Professor of Psychology with the Department of Psychology and would be party to the agreement as co-chair for the conference of SPSSI.

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 Department of Psychology and SPSSI.
- The agreement is for 2024 at a total cost not to exceed \$500. SPSSI 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, Germine (Gigi) Awad, is program co-chair for the conference of SPSSI.

Germine (Gigi) Awad has met state law requirements with the disclosure of her pecuniary interest and formal appointment arrangements with the University of Michigan. Requirements, if any, that may be applicable by the supervisor of Germine (Gigi) Awad, under the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee's procedures are separately analyzed and managed.

<u>We recommend</u> that the Board of Regents approve the agreement between the University of Michigan and SPSSI subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisor of Germine (Gigi) Awad or the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,

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Geoffrey S. Chatas Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

September 2024