

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents

October 23, 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 Rami Kimchi (University of Michigan Employee Rami Kimchi, Individual)

Background:

The University of Michigan Language Resource Center seeks approval to purchase a DVD for educational screenings from Rami Kimchi. The DVD *Galia's Wedding*, produced and directed by Rami Kimchi, is an award-winning short film. This film is based on a short story by A.B. Yehoshua and is sought for its unique focus on Sephardic Judaism. The DVD is only available from the filmmaker, Mr. Kimchi.

The proposed purchase falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Rami Kimchi 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:

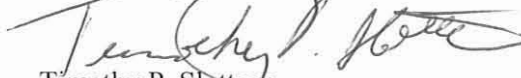
- i) The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its Language Resource Center and Rami Kimchi.

- ii) The purchase is for one DVD of *Galia's Wedding* (1986) for \$150.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that Rami Kimchi, University of Michigan employee as a Graduate Student Instructor in Near Eastern Studies in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, will receive payment as an individual.

Rami Kimchi 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 Rami Kimchi 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

October 2008