

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: License Agreement between the University of Michigan and MiOmics Inc.

Action Requested: Approval of License Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Office of Technology Transfer while reviewing the technology transfer agreement that then triggered a review by the UMOR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflict of interest was then developed and approved by this Committee and agreed to by the parties involved in this plan.

This proposed license agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Mr. Nigel S. Michki and Mr. Logan Walker are employees of the University of Michigan (“University”) and partial owners of MiOmics Inc. 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:

Mr. Nigel S. Michki, a Graduate Student Research Assistant in the Department of Biophysics, and Mr. Logan Walker, a Graduate Student Research Assistant in the Department of Biophysics, are partial owners of a for-profit company called MiOmics Inc. (the “Company”). The Company was formed recently to commercialize web-based data analysis solutions for single-cell sequencing and other high-throughput -omics applications and desires to license from the University of Michigan the University’s rights associated with the following technology:

UM OTT File No. 2020-435, entitled: “Software for Multi-Informatic Single-Cell Analysis” (Inventors: Nigel S. Michki, Dawen Cai)

The Office of Technology Transfer selected the Company as a University partner and negotiated the terms of the proposed Agreement in accordance with University policy and its accepted licensing principles.

Parties to the Agreement:

The Regents of the University of Michigan and MiOmics Inc.

Agreement Terms Include:

Agreement terms include granting the Company an exclusive license with the right to grant sublicenses. The University will receive equity in the Company, along with the right to purchase more equity.

The University will retain ownership of the licensed technology and may continue to further develop it and use it internally. No use of University services or facilities, nor any assignment of University employees, is obligated or contemplated under the Agreement. Standard disclaimers of warranties and indemnification apply, and the Agreement may be amended by consent of the parties, such as adding related technology. University procedures for approval of these changes will be followed and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate.

Pecuniary Interest:

The pecuniary interests of Mr. Michki and Mr. Walker arise from their ownership interest in MiOmics Inc.

Net Effect:

The Office of Technology Transfer has negotiated and finalized the terms of a worldwide exclusive license agreement for patents related to UM OTT File No. 2020-435 for all fields of use. MiOmics Inc. will obtain use and commercialization rights to the above listed University technology.

Recommendations:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the UMOR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. 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 Agreement between the University and MiOmics Inc.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Cunningham  
Vice President for Research

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