Approved by the Regents
November 20, 2025

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 extend the term of lease agreement with University of Michigan Credit Union (UMCU) (University of Michigan Employees, Earl Bell, Chairperson and Board Member; Lukeland Gentles, Vice Chairperson and Board Member; Benjie Johnson, Director; Quinta Vreede, Director; Victoria Bennett, Director and Treasurer; Jon Kinsey, Associate Director).

Background:

The University of Michigan seeks approval to extend the term of the lease agreement with the University of Michigan Credit Union ("UMCU") for use of office space on the University of Michigan–Dearborn campus. The space will be utilized for conducting and carrying on the business of a credit union serving the university community.

The proposed agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Earl Bell is a University employee as Chief Financial Officer with the A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning and would be party to the agreement as chairperson and board member of UMCU; Lukeland Gentles is a University employee as Director with Custodial Grounds Services and would be party to the agreement as vice chairperson and board member of UMCU; Benjie Johnson is a University employee as Chief Revenue Officer with Michigan Medicine Revenue Cycle (PTO) and would be party to the agreement as director of UMCU; Quinta Vreede is a University employee as Chief Administrative Officer, Chief of Staff with Office of the Executive VP for Medical Affairs (EVPMA) and would be party to the agreement as director of UMCU; Victoria Bennett is a University employee as Mobile Technologies Core Manager with Eisenberg Family Depression Center and would be party to the agreement as director and treasurer of UMCU; Jon Kinsey is a University employee as Vice President and Secretary of the University and would be party to the agreement as associate director of UMCU.

However, the statute allows university employees to participate in such lease agreements, if the following conditions are met:

a) The public servant promptly discloses any pecuniary interest in the lease agreement to the official body that has power to approve the lease agreement, which disclosure shall be a matter of record in its official proceedings.

b) The lease agreement is approved by a vote of not less than two-thirds 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 lease agreement.

   ii) The terms of the lease agreement, including duration, financial consideration between the parties, facilities or services of the public entity included in the lease agreement, and the nature and degree of assignment of employees of the public entity for fulfillment of the lease agreement.

   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 lease agreement are the Regents of the University of Michigan and University of Michigan Credit Union, a Michigan corporation.

ii) The service to be provided is the lease of the following:

   (1) 352 square feet in the Dearborn University Center for 2-years, beginning January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027, at an annual rate of $8,190.00, with 3 percent annual rate increases. The tenant will be responsible for janitorial service.
   (2) 240 square feet in the University Hospital for five-years, beginning January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2030, at an annual rate of $13,778.00, with 3 percent annual rate increases. The tenant will be responsible for janitorial service.

iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University of Michigan employees, Earl Bell is a chairperson and board member; Lukeland Gentles is a vice chairperson and board member; Benjie Johnson is a director; Quinta Vreede is a director; Victoria Bennett is director and treasurer; and John Kinsey is the associate director of UMCU.

Earl Bell, Lukeland Gentles, Benjie Johnson, Quinta Vreede, Victoria Bennett and Jon Kinsey have met state law requirements with the disclosure of their pecuniary interest and formal appointment arrangements with the University of Michigan. Requirements, if any, that may be applicable by the supervisors of Earl Bell, Lukeland Gentles, Benjie Johnson, Quinta Vreede, Victoria Bennett and Jon Kinsey, 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 UMCU subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisor of Earl Bell, Lukeland Gentles, Benjie Johnson, Quinta Vreede, Victoria Bennett and Jon Kinsey or the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Hewlett III
Interim Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

November 2025