#### THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

REGENTS COMMUNICATION

## **ACTION REQUEST**

Subject:

Research Agreement between the University of Michigan

and Internet2

Action Requested:

Authorization to enter into Agreement

#### Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Division of Research Development and Administration while reviewing the Proposal Approval Form. This then triggered a review by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Committee. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflicts of interest was then developed by the Committee and agreed to by the parties involved.

This proposed Agreement falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Doug Van Houweling is the President and CEO of Internet2 and Dr. Mary Sue Coleman is a member of the Internet2 board. Both are employees of the University of Michigan ("University"). The law permits such an Agreement provided it is disclosed to the executive officers and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote of the Regents of the University of Michigan.

## Background:

Dr. Mary Sue Coleman is the President of the University of Michigan and Dr. Doug Van Houweling is a Professor and Associate Dean for Research and Innovation at the University of Michigan School of Information. Internet2 ("Company") is a consortium led by universities working in partnership with industry and government to develop and deploy advanced network applications and technologies that facilitate the development, deployment and use of revolutionary internet technologies.

## Nature of the Agreement:

The Company, with funding from the National Science Foundation, wishes to support a research project directed by Dr. Daniel Atkins III in the University's School of Information entitled *CI Days at UM*, which requires the use of facilities and resources of the University.

## Terms of Agreement:

The terms of the proposed agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is fifteen (15) months and the amount of funding support is \$18,000.

# Impact of the Agreement:

The Agreement will support an effort by Dr. Atkins to use his expertise and University resources to expand awareness and use of the new services on campus as well as the national resources (such as the TeraGrid and Blue Waters) available to faculty and students. Attracting such users with less experience should also provide a better understanding of how to support and educate this constituency.

### Recommendation:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. In light of the disclosure made in this document and our finding that the Agreement was negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I recommend that the Board of Regents approve of the University's entering into this Agreement with Internet2.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Forrest

Vice President for Research

December 2010