

**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 enter into an contract with Tonya Marie Kneff-Chang dba Interdisciplinary Insights LLC (University of Michigan Employee, Tonya Marie Kneff-Chang, Owner).

Background:

The University of Michigan Office for Health Equity and Inclusion seeks approval to enter into a contract with Tonya Marie Kneff-Chang, dba Interdisciplinary Insights LLC, to provide course instruction on the History of Race and Racism in Medicine.

The proposed contract falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute as Tonya Marie Kneff-Chang is a University employee as an Instructional Lead and Postdoctoral Researcher with the Office of Medical Student Education (OMSE) and the Community-Based Research on Equity Activism & Transformative Education (CREATE) Center and would be party to the contract as owner of Interdisciplinary Insights LLC.

However, the Statute allows the University to enter into such contracts 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.

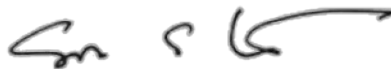
The following information is provided in compliance with the statutory requirements contained in Section (c) above:

- i) The parties to the contract are the Regents of the University of Michigan and its Office for Health Equity and Inclusion and Interdisciplinary Insights LLC.
- ii) The contract is for course instruction for a duration of six months for a total cost of \$10,000. Interdisciplinary Insights LLC will supply all the necessary resources and personnel to fulfill this contract. The remaining base contract terms and conditions are typical of 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 Tonya Marie Kneff-Chang is the owner of Interdisciplinary Insights LLC.

Tonya Marie Kneff-Chang 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 Tonya Marie Kneff-Chang, 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 contract between the University of Michigan and Interdisciplinary Insights LLC subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisor of Tonya Marie Kneff-Chang or the Medical School's or OVPR's Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoffrey S. Chatas
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

December 2024