

**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 a contract with Eastern Michigan University (University of Michigan Employee Kristine Ajrouch, Employee).

Background:

The University of Michigan (“University”) through its Institute of Social Research seeks approval to enter into a contract with Eastern Michigan University for the purpose of research activities.

The proposed contract falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Kristine Ajrouch, Adjunct Research Professor, is an employee of the University and an employee at Eastern Michigan University.

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 contract, which disclosure shall be a matter of record in its official proceedings.
- b) The contract 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 contract, 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 contract.
 - 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 Eastern Michigan University.
- ii) The contract is for Eastern Michigan University to provide sponsored research collaboration services under a sponsored project from the National Institute of Health titled “Brain Health and Ethnic Disparities in ADRD Risk: The Case of Arab Americans.” The performance period is anticipated to be April 1, 2023, through March 31, 2026, and estimated not to exceed \$75,198. The terms of the contract will comply with appropriate University requirements. Since projects are often amended, the contract will include provisions for changes in time, amount, and scope.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that University employee Kristine Ajrouch is an employee of the University and has an employment relationship with Eastern Michigan University.

Kristine Ajrouch has met state law requirements with the disclosure of her pecuniary interest and formal appointment arrangements with the University. Requirements, if any, that may be applicable by her supervisors or UMOR’s Conflict of Interest Committee’s procedures are separately analyzed and managed.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the University enter into a contract with Eastern Michigan University, subject to requirements, if any, that the supervisors of Kristine Ajrouch or UMOR’s Conflict of Interest Committee may impose.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoffrey S. Chatas
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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