

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Subcontract Agreement between the University of Michigan and Omni Sciences, Inc.

Action Requested: Authorization to enter into Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects while reviewing the Proposal Approval Form which 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 the Committee and agreed to by the parties involved.

This proposed agreement ("Agreement") falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Mohammed N. Islam is an employee of the University of Michigan ("University"), and owner of Omni Sciences, 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:

Dr. Islam, a Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences, is the owner of a for-profit company called Omni Sciences, Inc. (the "Company"). The Company wishes to fund a National Science Foundation (prime) STTR Phase I project entitled "Short-Wave Infrared Super-Continuum Laser for 3-D Printing of Plastics and Polymers" (ORSP #14-PAF06989) in the Department of Biomedical Engineering under the direction of Dr. Scott Hollister. The purpose of this project is to show technical feasibility of using a short-wave infrared super-continuum (SWIR-SC) laser operating between 2-2.5 μ m for 3-D printing of a wide range of plastics and polymers that are useful in medical implants and devices, where a wide range of biomaterials from elastomeric to very stiff are needed for tissue reconstruction and medical devices. This will allow for such materials to be printed with a single source of curing light as opposed to the multiple sources uniquely needed for each such material currently.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately twelve (12) months. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$67,541. Since research projects are often amended, this agreement includes provisions for changes in time, amount, and scope. University procedures for approval of these changes will be followed and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate.

Impact of the Agreement

The Agreement will support an effort by Dr. Hollister to use his expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources to synthesize different compositions of Poly Glycerol Dodeconate (PGD) for laser sintering applications and provide material and mechanical characterization of the resulting laser sintered structures, including analyzing the shape memory properties of PGD after laser sintering.

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 University's entering into this Agreement with Omni Sciences, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu
Interim Vice President for Research

July 2014