

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents  
December 17, 2009

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Research Agreement between the University of Michigan and ChemXLerate, LLC

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 proposed research agreement. This then triggered a review by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflicts of interest was then developed and approved by the Committee and agreed to by the parties involved.

The proposed Research Agreement ("Agreement") falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Adam Matzger and Dr. Antek Wong-Foy are both employees of the University of Michigan ("University") and owners of ChemXLerate, LLC ("Company"). 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. Adam Matzger, Associate Professor of Chemistry, College of Literature, Science and the Arts and Associate Professor of Macromolecular Science and Engineering, College of Engineering, and Dr. Antek Wong-Foy, an Assistant Research Scientist, Department of Chemistry, College of Literature, Science and the Arts, are both owners of a for-profit company called ChemXLerate LLC. The Company was formed to commercialize high-throughput screening tools for the discovery of drug polymorphs.

Nature of the Agreement:

The Research Agreement is for a project titled "Quality Testing of Organic Solvents" to be funded over a one-year (1) period with the total costs not to exceed six thousand dollars. The subcontract includes a provision for extensions of the time period and scope of work and may be expanded to include additional projects.

Impact of the Agreement:

The agreement enables research to be performed to prepare and test MOF synthesis grade *N,N*-diethylformamide.

Pecuniary Interest:

The pecuniary interests of Drs. Matzger and Wong-Foy arise from their ownership interest in ChemXLerate LLC.

Recommendations:

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 Research Agreement with ChemXLerate LLC.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen R. Forrest  
Vice President for Research

December 2009