## THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS COMMUNICATION

## ACTION REQUEST

Subject:	Regental Action Required Under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute
<u>Action</u> <u>Requested</u> :	Authorization for the University of Michigan to Enter into a Lease Agreement and Relationship Agreement with SenSigma LLC (University of Michigan Professor Jyotirmoy Mazumder and Research Fellow Lijun Song, partial owners)

## Background:

The University of Michigan wishes to enter into a lease agreement for space in the North Campus Research Complex start-up accelerator, located at 1600 Huron Parkway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Ann Arbor, Michigan, to be leased to SenSigma LLC. The space will be utilized as office space for research and business operations for SenSigma LLC. The parties will also enter into a relationship agreement defining the relationship between the University of Michigan and SenSigma LLC at the accelerator.

The proposed lease and relationship agreements fall under the State of Michigan conflict of interest statute as Jyotirmoy Mazumder and Lijun Song are University of Michigan employees and a party to the lease and relationship agreements by virtue of their partial ownership of SenSigma LLC. However, the statute allows university employees to participate in such lease agreements if the following conditions are met:

- a) The public servant promptly discloses any pecuniary interest in the lease agreement to the official body that has power to approve the lease agreement, which disclosure shall be a matter of record in its official proceedings.
- b) The lease agreement is approved by a vote of not less than two-thirds 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 lease agreement.
  - ii) The terms of the lease agreement, including duration, financial consideration between the parties, facilities or services of the public entity included in the lease agreement, and the nature and degree of assignment of employees of the public entity for fulfillment of the lease agreement.
  - 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 lease and relationship agreements are the Regents of the University of Michigan and SenSigma LLC.
- ii) The service to be provided is the lease of modular office space in the North Campus Research Complex start-up accelerator on the second floor of Building 520, located at 1600 Huron Parkway, Ann Arbor, Michigan, for twelve months. The lease will begin late fall 2011 and will use the standard University of Michigan accelerator lease template. Tenant will pay the standard accelerator rates of: \$200 per month for each office (maximum of 4); and \$65 per month for each cubicle (maximum of 4). SenSigma LLC will be responsible for providing monthly updates concerning its business progress to the University of Michigan Office of Technology Transfer, and will have access to Office of Technology Transfer personnel for advice concerning obtaining technology assessment, business consulting, technical assistance, capital raising, or other business services.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that Jyotirmoy Mazumder and Lijun Song, University of Michigan employees, are partial owners of SenSigma LLC.

Jyotirmoy Mazumder and Lijun Song have met state law requirements with the disclosure of their pecuniary interest and their formal appointment arrangements with the University of Michigan.

<u>We recommend</u> that the Board of Regents approve the lease agreement between the University of Michigan and SenSigma LLC, subject to the requirements, if any, of a conflict management plan required by the respective employee's supervisor, and any requirements imposed by the conflict of interest committees of the Medical School or the Office of the Vice President for Research.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Slottow Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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