

ITEM 142-1012-R0309

**Approval of University System/Employee Equity Interest and/or Business Participation Under MUSP 407; The University of Montana**

**THAT:**

The Board of Regents of Higher Education approves UM-Missoula employee Frank Rosenzweig for ownership of an equity interest in, for service on the governing board of, and for work as a part-time employee of Dikaryon Biotechnology Limited, a Montana corporation. The Board of Regents of Higher Education further authorizes The University of Montana-Missoula to enter into agreements and contractual arrangements with Dikaryon Biotechnology, Limited for use of University facilities and use of certain other resources.

**EXPLANATION:**

Dr. Frank Rosenzweig, an Associate Professor in the Division of Biological Sciences is an employee of UM-Missoula. He seeks approval to hold equity in, to serve as a part-time employee of, and serve on the governing board of Dikaryon Biotechnology, Inc., a company established to develop novel metabolic functions in eukaryotic microbes that enhance their suitability for use in the industrial production of biofuels and pharmaceuticals.

Dr. Rosenzweig will work in accordance with a conflict management plan developed by UM. Under Policy 407 and MCA 20-25-109, university employees must have board approval to serve as officers, employees, or members of a governing board of a business entity, or to hold an equity interest in a business entity which has an agreement with, or shares ownership of intellectual property with, the university, relating to the development, licensing or commercial exploitation of that intellectual property.

UM benefits from this approval. By allowing this University-private sector relationship, intellectual property developed at The University of Montana can be used to grow a Montana-based company, will set an example for other entrepreneurs from the University looking for opportunities for commercialization of their innovations and creations, and will generate goodwill for University employees and the private sector. The University will incur no net cost by entering into any arrangements covered by this agreement.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Submission Form