

November 15-16, 2018

**ITEM 181-1504-R1118**

**Request for approval of University System/Employee Equity Interest and/or Business Participation Under MUSP 407; Montana Technological University**

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**THAT**

The Board of Regents of Higher Education approves Montana Technological University employees Jack L. Skinner and Jessica M. Gregory for having an equity interest in and to serve as an officer, employee, or member of a governing board of, Alpha Technology, LLC, a Montana limited liability company. The Board of Regents of Higher Education further authorizes Montana Technological University to enter into licensing agreements and contractual arrangements with Alpha Technology, LLC for use of Montana Technological University facilities, if needed.

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**EXPLANATION**

Jack L. Skinner is an associate professor and department head in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Montana Technological University and President at Alpha Technology, LLC. Jessica M. Gregory is a post-doctoral researcher at Montana Technological University and senior technical staff at Alpha Technology, LLC.

Dr. Skinner and Dr. Gregory seek approval to hold an equity interest in and to serve as an officer, employee, or member of the governing board of Alpha Technology, LLC, which wishes to partner with Montana Technological University to license technology for sales of products related to said technology.

As employees, Dr. Skinner and Dr. Gregory have and will continue to work in accordance with a conflict management plan developed by Montana Technological University. 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.

Montana Technological University greatly benefits from this approval. Alpha Technology, LLC recognizes the value of licensing technology from Montana Technological University for the purpose of commercialization of products related to said technology. Successful manufacture, marketing, and distribution of products involving this technology will create jobs locally. Recognition associated with the invention, product development, commercialization, and local job creation will demonstrate the impact Montana Technological University can have as an exemplary unit of education and innovation with an important role in local and state economic development. Montana Technological University will also receive royalty shares from revenue generated from commercialization of products related to the patent.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment #1: Joint venture submission form