

May 22 - 23, 2019

**ITEM 183-1009-R0519**

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

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**THAT**

The University of Montana-Missoula requests approval from the Board of Regents of Higher Education for UM-Missoula employee Cody Youngbull to have an equity interest in and to serve as an officer, employee, or member of a governing board of, Excelsior Photonics Corporation, a Delaware corporation. The University of Montana-Missoula further request authorization to enter into licensing agreements and other contractual arrangements with Excelsior Photonics Corporation for use of University facilities, if needed.

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**EXPLANATION**

Cody Youngbull, Full Research Professor is a UM employee at Division of Biological Sciences; Organismal Biology, Ecology, and Evolution, University of Montana - Flathead Lake Biological Station. He seeks approval to hold an equity interest in and to serve as an officer, employee, or member of a governing board of Excelsior Photonics Corporation which has expressed an interest in a licensing option agreement with the University.

Employee 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.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment #1: Supporting documentation