

March 14-15, 2024

**ITEM 211-2001-R0324**

**Request for Approval of University System/Employee Intellectual Property Joint Participation Under MUSP 407-Lawrence; Montana State University**

---

**THAT**

The Board of Regents of Higher Education approves MSU-Bozeman employee Dr. Martin Lawrence to have an equity interest in Photon Biosciences, LLC. The Board of Regents of Higher Education further authorizes Montana State University to enter into licensing agreements and contractual arrangements with Photon Biosciences, LLC.

---

**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Martin Lawrence is a Professor of the Cryo-EM Core Facility, Chemistry and Biochemistry Department at Montana State University. He seeks approval to hold an equity interest in Photon Biosciences, LLC., and approval for a technology license between Montana State University ("MSU"), and Photon Biosciences, LLC. The intellectual property ("IP") involved refers to inventions created by Dr. Martin Lawrence at MSU that are licensed to Photon Biosciences, LLC. The IP developed by the employee seeking approval is "A Genetically Encoded Phosphorescent, Electron Dense Probe for Electron Microscopy and Correlative Light and Electron Microscopy (CLEM)". This genetically encoded probe derives its phosphorescent properties from the incorporation of electron dense lanthanides. This will allow the tagged protein to be observed with both light and electron microscopes, allowing tagged proteins of interest and their immediate surrounding to be imaged within a cell at single nm resolution. These ultrahigh resolution imaging abilities have broad applications in medicine and biotechnology.

Dr. Lawrence has worked in accordance with a Conflicts Management Plan developed by the MSU Office of Research Compliance. 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 share ownership of intellectual property with, the university, relating to the development, licensing or commercial exploitation of that intellectual property.

MSU and MUS will benefit from this approval, including in-state economic development, technical advancements, and collaborative research opportunities for the University and its students.

---

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 – Submission Form