

March 9 – 10, 2017

**ITEM # 174-1013-R0317**

**Request for approval of University System/Employee Equity Interest and/or Business Participation Under MUSP 407 (Rau and Patel) – University of Montana-Missoula**

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**THAT**

The Board of Regents of Higher Education approves UM-Missoula employees Dr. Thomas Rau and Dr. Sarjubhai Patel for having an equity interest in Glia Diagnostics, an Australian corporation whose address is 29 Clarendon St., Armadale VIC 3143. The Board of Regents of Higher Education further authorizes The University of Montana-Missoula to enter into licensing agreements and contractual arrangements with Glia Diagnostics for use of University facilities, if needed.

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**EXPLANATION**

Dr. Thomas Rau and Dr. Sarjubhai Patel are both Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences in the College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Montana. Dr. Rau and Dr. Patel seek approval to hold equity interests in Glia Diagnostics, an Australian corporation established to develop diagnostic, blood based markers for traumatic brain injury and neurodegenerative disorders. The emphasis will be completing validation of previously discovered biomarkers found by Dr. Rau and Dr. Patel. The objective of Glia will be obtaining FDA and TGA approval for an in-vitro diagnostic test panel that can be used to accurately diagnose both the severity and outcome of individuals exposed to a traumatic brain injury

Dr. Rau and Dr. Patel will work in accordance with conflict management plans 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, UM will benefit by being funded to perform a significant number of clinical trials and lead the way in an aggressive series of clinical research. This 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: Submission Form