

Submitted by:

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Vice President for Marketing and Communications and Chief of Staff**

**UNIVERSITY CONTRACT TO A FURNITURE MANUFACTURING COMPANY
WHICH IS PARTIALLY OWNED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHOSE WIFE IS A
WAYNE STATE EMPLOYEE**

Recommendation

WDET recommends that the Board of Governors authorize the President or his designee to contract with Detroit Design Center for the manufacture of a customized work table for use in one of WDET's production studios.

Background

WDET is in need of a customized worktable for Production Studio A that will be built to accommodate audio engineering equipment used by the station's Production Director and other production staff for the recording, mixing and editing of in-studio performances and other broadcast content and promotions. Studio A is a space that is frequently viewed and photographed by Detroit musicians and other station guests who appear on WDET's local programming, therefore the aesthetics of the table are an important consideration.

Detroit Design Center is a Detroit-based manufacturer that specializes in custom sculptures and functional objects. The company was founded and is owned by Israel and Eric Nordin and is housed in a facility in Southwest Detroit. Founder Eric Nordin's wife, Myung Ae Nordin, is a research assistant at Wayne State University.

Michigan Conflict of Interest law requires specific sunshine procedures in order for a University employee, a company owned by a University employee, or a company for which a University employee serves as an officer, to contract directly or indirectly with the University:

- (A) The employee must disclose any pecuniary interest in the contract to the Board and the disclosure must be made a matter of record in the Board's proceedings.
- (B) The contract must be approved by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the full membership of the Board in open session.

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(C) The Board's minutes must report:

- i. The name of each party in the contract.
- ii. The terms of the contract, including duration, financial consideration between parties, facilities or services of the public entity included in the contract and the nature and degree of assignment of employees of the public entity for fulfillment of the contract.
- iii. The nature of any pecuniary interest.

If the Board approves this recommendation, the minutes will report as follows:

1. The parties involved in the contract are Wayne State University and Detroit Design Center
2. The financial consideration between the parties consists of \$5,000.00, of which \$1,500.00 will be paid by WDET to Detroit Design Center for the cost of materials to be used in the manufacture of the table and \$3,500.00 will be provided in trade through underwriting promotion on WDET-FM for the cost of labor and installation.
3. The table will be delivered and installed at WDET's studios at 4600 Cass Ave on or by March 27, 2015.

The pecuniary interest is based on co-owner Eric Nordin's wife, Myung Ae Nordin's employment at Wayne State University as a research assistant.