

**SUBMITTED BY: MARK KORNBLUH, PH.D., PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

**UNIVERSITY CONTRACT TO LICENSE  
TECHNOLOGY TO A COMPANY OWNED BY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FACULTY**

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Administration recommends that the Board of Governors authorize the President or his designee to enter into a contract with JinLe Biomarkers, LLC., a Michigan Limited Liability Corporation for an option for an exclusive license for commercialization of the intellectual property encompassing the development of a 'Detection technologies of the N-terminal variable segment of cardiac troponin T as a novel biomarker of myocardial stress' and injury' and 'Therapeutic Peptide to Modulate Cardiac Muscle Function'.

**BACKGROUND**

Dr. Jian-Ping Jin was Chair of the Wayne State University (WSU) Department of Physiology from June 2009 to December 2020. He continues to hold an adjunct position at WSU and runs a laboratory in physiology. Dr. Jin is currently Professor of Physiology and Biophysics and Associate Director of the Center for Cardiovascular Research at the University of Illinois at Chicago. His laboratories focus on actin filament-associated regulatory proteins, troponin and calponin, as model systems.

Dr. Phillip Levy, MD, MPH is the Edward S. Thomas Endowed Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at WSU and he currently serves as associate vice president for Translational Science in the Office of the Vice President for Research. In addition, Dr. Levy is the director of the Center for Population Health Accountability for Wayne Health.

Dr. Jin's research has resulted in several technologies related to earlier and more accurate diagnosis of myocardial injury. Detection of the N-terminal variable segment of cardiac troponin T as a novel biomarker of myocardial stress and injury, (WSU Tech ID Number 17-1445). This technology has two issued patents, 10,648,987 (issued 12 May 2020) and 11,313,865 (issued 26 Aug 2022). Dr. Jin's second technology, A Therapeutic Peptide to Modulate Cardiac Muscle Function, (WSU Tech ID Number 19-1544) has a published patent under review at the USPTO US2021/0038687 (published 11 Feb 2021).

JinLe Biomarkers, LLC, incorporated in Michigan in 2022, and was founded to develop and commercialize a novel biomarker of myocardial stress and injury and other related platforms. Drs. Jian-Ping Jin and Dr. Philip Levy are the cofounders, and are each owners, and Dr. Levy is also Chief Medical Officer of the company located at 836 Knox

Street, Birmingham, Michigan, 48009.

Michigan Conflict of Interest law requires specific sunshine procedures in order for a University employee, or a company owned by a University employee, 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.
- (C) The Board's minutes must report:
  - (i) The name of each party involved in the contract.
  - (ii) The terms of the contract, including duration, financial consideration between the 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:

The Board of Governors authorized the President, or his designee, to enter into a contract with JinLe Biomarkers, LLC, in which Dr. Jian-Ping Jin and Dr. Phillip Levy hold an equity position.

- (i) The parties involved in the contract are Wayne State University and JinLe Biomarkers, LLC.
- (ii) The contract will provide:
  - (a) Scope: An option to acquire an exclusive, worldwide royalty bearing license.
  - (b) Duration: The term of the option shall be for twelve (12) months with the opportunity to extend for a further period of twelve (12) months upon payment of additional consideration.

- (c) Financial Consideration: An option fee of \$2,000.
- (d) No University facilities or services of the University are included in the contract; and
- (e) No University employees are assigned in connection with the contract.

(iii) Dr. Jian-Ping's pecuniary interest consists of a current fifty percent (50%) ownership of JinLe Biomarkers, LLC., with Dr. Philip Levy holding the remaining 50% equity. Dr. Levy will therefore have the potential to financially benefit from the commercial success of the company. Dr. Levy has filed a Financial Conflict of Interest with the Office of Research Integrity.