

November 20 - 21, 2014

ITEM 165-1004-R1114

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

THAT

The Board of Regents of Higher Education approves UM-Missoula employees Trent Atkins, Craig Buscher, and Daniel Zielaski for having an equity interest in and to serve as officers, employees, or members of a governing board of, Immersive Learning for Children, LLC, a Montana limited liability company. The Board of Regents of Higher Education further authorizes The University of Montana-Missoula to enter into licensing agreements and contractual arrangements with Immersive Learning for Children, LLC for use of University intellectual property and facilities (if needed).

EXPLANATION

Trent Atkins, Craig Buscher, and Daniel Zielaski are employees of the University of Montana in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. They seek approval to hold an equity interest in and to serve as officers, employees, or members of a governing board of Immersive Learning for Children, a Montana limited liability company established to partner with the University of Montana for improvement and marketing of a series of e-mail-based learning modules, related lesson plans, and a Kindergarten roundup assessment which were developed to assist parents, guardians, and school professionals in teaching children pre-literacy skills before entering kindergarten.

Atkins, Buscher and Zielaski will work in accordance with a 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, 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.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1 Submission Form