

# UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

## Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

# SS 087

**The University of Mississippi (UM) anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase as a sole source shall follow the procedures outlined below.**

**Commodity or commodities to be purchased (manufacturer, model, description):**

Gubener Plastinate GmbH von Hagens Plastination Specimens

**The need to be fulfilled by this item(s) and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:**

The Department of Biology has developed a new, upper-division Human Anatomy course (BSIC 310) that is scheduled to be offered for the first time during the Spring 2019 semester. Many of the students enrolling in the course desire to enter professional schools (e.g., medical, dental, etc.) upon graduation. In these fields, students must learn to connect 2-dimensional imagery with the 3-dimensional person to effectively treat and communicate with the patient. In our course, students will be using the 3-5mm sheet plastinates from von Hagens as the learning bridge between the synthetic cadaver (3-dimensional) and the anatomy software (both 2- and 3-dimensional views). These sheet plastinates require no special storage conditions (e.g., temperature and humidity control), are portable (can be transported in a messenger bag and used in both lecture and laboratory settings), and can be used for both macroscopic and microscopic examination. A rich body of background information on structures found within the sheet plastinates is available through resources associated with the National Library of Medicine's Visible Human Project ([https://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/visible/visible\\_human.html](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/visible/visible_human.html)). The only other company that provides plastinated specimens, American Plastination, can only provide specimens at 2-2.5cm in thickness. These specimens are not portable, are more delicate, and cannot be used for microscopic examination.

**Name of company/individual selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide the required item(s):**

Gubener Plastinate GmbH is the only provider of 3-5mm thick, sheet plastinates of tissue and organ sections. The professor who will be teaching the new Human Anatomy course (BISC 310), has been researching resources for this course over the past two years. She has attended the Human Anatomy and Physiology Society's annual conferences in 2016 and 2017 to meet with vendors offering a wide range of products for human anatomy education. No other vendors at

the conferences, or those identified in trade journals, provide sheet plastinates of tissue and organ sections at a thickness of 3-5mm.

**Why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:**

Purchase of the 3-5mm thick sheet plastinates is an upfront investment. However, with proper care the sheet plastinates can be used for decades of instruction and damaged specimens can be repaired by the company.

**Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:**

In addition to conference attendance and email communication with the vendor, the professor teaching the course has conducted approximately 8 phone and webinar consultations with the vendor representative to itemize our needs, select series of sheet plastinates that provide a lower per unit cost, and customize our quote.

**Submission Instructions and Format of Response from Objecting Parties:**

**Interested parties who have reason to believe that the item(s) above should not be certified as a sole source should provide information in the following format for UM to use in determining whether or not to proceed with awarding the Sole Source purchase.**

**1.1 Interested Party Information**

**1.1.1 Contact Name, Phone Number, Address and email address**

**1.1.2 Company Website URL, if applicable**

**1.2 Objection to Sole Source Certification**

**1.2.1 Interested parties must present specific objections to the Sole Source certification using the criteria listed above.**

**1.2.2 A statement regarding the Interested Party's capabilities as related to this Sole Source Certification Request.**

**1.3 Comments will be accepted at any time prior to Friday, June 1, 2018 at 3:00 pm (Central Time) to Katherine Jones at [kajones4@olemiss.edu](mailto:kajones4@olemiss.edu) (with Cc: to [purchase@olemiss.edu](mailto:purchase@olemiss.edu)) at The University of Mississippi Procurement Services Department, 164 Jeanette Phillips Drive, PO Box 1848, University, Mississippi 38677. Responses may be delivered by hand, via regular mail, overnight delivery, or e-mail. The envelope or email should reference the sole source number. UM WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DELAYS IN THE DELIVERY OF RESPONSES. It is solely the responsibility of the**

**Interested Parties that responses reach UM on time. Interested Parties may contact Katherine Jones to verify the receipt of their Responses. Responses received after the deadline will be rejected.**

**If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, UM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then UM will withdraw the sole source certification and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.**

**If UM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then UM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board for approval to purchase.**