

Technology Transfer

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Purpose of Presentation

- What is Technology Transfer
- What is Intellectual Property (IP)
- How we Protect and License IP
- Student Issues
- When to Contact our Office (TTO)



Land Grant Institution

Our mission is to
create and distribute knowledge.



MSU Engages in Technology Transfer

- Education and Employment of Students
- Publications
- Patenting/Licensing



Benefits of Technology Transfer

- Transfer MSU Creations for Public Benefit
- Foster Relationships with Industry
- Promote Local Economic Growth
- Reward, Retain, Recruit and Serve Faculty
- Royalties to MSU and Inventors
- Recognition of MSU and Faculty



Types of Intellectual Property (IP)

- Know How
- Copyright
- Trademark
- Trade Secrets
- Plant Variety Protection (PVP)
- Patent - focus of this presentation



Patent

“...the right to exclude others from making, using, or selling the invention throughout the United States”



Patenting Requirements

- Novel
- Useful
- Non-Obvious



What is Patentable?

- Processes
- Machines
- Compositions of Matter
- Improvements on the Above
- Asexually Reproduced Plants
- Plants & Microorganisms Which Have Been Genetically Altered
- Software



Patent Costs

- U.S. ~ \$20,000 or More
- Foreign ~ \$100,000 or More
- TTO Seeks Licensee Commitment before Incurring Patent Costs



When to File a Patent

- U.S. – Must File Within One Year of Public Disclosure or Before Disclosure
- Foreign – Complete Novelty Is Required & Cannot Have Been Publicly Disclosed



Public Disclosure Examples

- Publication (including enabling abstract)
- Seminars/Conferences
- Sale or Distribution of Product
- Electronic Disclosure



Protecting Intellectual Property

- Laboratory Notebook
- Confidential Disclosure Agreements
- Material Transfer Agreements
- Research Agreements



Laboratory Notebook

- Evidence in Patent Disputes
- Establishes Dates of Conception and Reduction to Practice
- Use Best Practices and Date Entries
- Notebooks Are MSU Property Under the Management of the PI



Confidential Disclosure or Non-Disclosure Agreements

- Recipient Agrees in Writing Not to Disclose
- Allows Disclosure Without Barring Patentability
- Example NDA on TTO Website
- Must Be Reviewed and Signed by TTO



Material Transfer Agreements

- Allows Sharing of Proprietary Materials without Barring Patentability
- Materials Typically Must Be Destroyed or Returned After Use
- Example MTA on TTO Website
- Must Be Reviewed and Signed by TTO



Sponsored Research Agreements

- If There is an Invention MSU Files Patent(s) and Retains Ownership
- Company Has Option to License
- University Can Publish Results



Testing Agreements

- Recognizes that University is Testing Company's Proprietary Material
- Testing Services Are Not Expected to Develop MSU Intellectual Property
- Agreement Must be Reviewed by TTO to Ensure No MSU Intellectual Property is Involved



Where to Start: MSU Invention Disclosure

- Not a Public Disclosure
- Starts Process for TTO Market Evaluation , IP Protection, and Potential Patenting
- What is the Invention, Who Are the Inventors, Who Funded the Work
- Provide Time for TTO to Process
- Disclosure Form Available On TTO Website



Sharing In Rewards

- Revenue Sharing With Faculty & Students
- Patent Ownership



Regents Policies

- Ownership of IP
- Students & IP
- Co-Inventorship
- Rewards



Student Projects

- MFA (Film Making)
- Fellowships
- Capstone Projects/Company Participation



Thank You for Your Interest

We are here to help. Contact us if you have an IP question, potential invention, etc.

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