

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Patents, Ventures & Licensing

What UIRF Does

Corporation • UIRF is a non-profit closely aligned with UI, and commercializes university-developed technologies by protecting UI intellectual property, licensing technologies to companies, and managing the subsequent revenue stream

Licensing • Technologies are licensed to existing and startup companies, and new UI spinout companies developed by faculty, UIRF, or others

Revenues • FY '01-'06 totaled \$64MM, and historical revenues include royalties on product sales, licensing fees, milestone payments, and equity. Ranked in the top 15% nationally.

Distributions • UIRF distributes 75% of revenues to inventors and the university¹, and retains 25% for operating costs- the majority of which are for patent prosecution

Services • UIRF also manages out-going material transfer agreements (MTA's) and complex IP issues for in-coming MTA's and sponsored research (through DSP - Division of Sponsored Research) and IP issues for clinical and preclinical trials (through ClinicalTrials)

Why You Might Be Interested

Education • Commercialization of technology and ideas into public markets is an efficient means of educating people through the use of products or services

Society • Impacting peoples' lives can be done on a large scale if successfully commercialized

Promotion and Tenure • Invention disclosures and patents are considered

Personal Financial Gain • First \$100,000 of revenue distributed to inventor(s), and 25% thereafter¹

Infrastructure Gains • 15% of revenues go to the inventors department and 15% to the college, enabling discretionary funding for selected internal projects¹

What Changed Recently

Intention • Increased external focus on UIRF commercialization efforts and results

People • New UIRF and UI leadership in areas relating to commercialization; expanding UIRF staff and functions to enable more commercialization

Organization • UIRF undergoing major internal development effort to become more aligned with seeking and developing the best opportunities

Funding • Major funding (\$4M GIVF - Grow Iowa Values Fund, \$8M Battelle) within UI for commercialization projects, infrastructure, and endowed entrepreneurial faculty positions

Companies • 15 companies were formed based on UI technologies the past 18 months. Internal culture is changing - numerous faculty are making entrepreneurship a priority

What To Expect In The Future

Intention • UIRF aspiring to top commercialization effectiveness, revenues, and impact.

People • Adding more business development and market analysis staff to increase the rate and value of commercialization efforts

Organization • Invention disclosure and patent resources that are easier to understand and use, such as online invention disclosure submission, new website, FAQs, etc.

Funding • RFP for commercialization project funding in FY07

Communications • On successes, infrastructure developments, funding programs

Invention Disclosures:

What To Submit and When

Submit invention disclosures well in advance of any publication - public disclosure² eliminates foreign patent rights and may create complications for US patent rights

No hard and fast rules - but generally submit after you've conceived of invention and the concept is proven, or you've determined how it can be proven; preliminary data on utility and/or an actual reduction to practice is most helpful, but data is not always needed

Clearly indicate when an invention potentially addresses a major market opportunity or societal benefit

To be patented, an invention must be: (1) useful, (2) novel, and (3) non-obvious to those skilled in the art

Who to Contact for Invention Disclosure Submission, Patent Questions, or UI Spinout (e.g. Startup) Company Questions:

Faculty working with us • Contact your existing case manager:

Brenda Akins 319-335-4549 Brenda-akins@uiowa.edu

Kate Cox 319-335-4738 Kathryn-cox@uiowa.edu

Zev Sunleaf 319-335-4155 Zev-sunleaf@uiowa.edu

John Weis 319-335-4659 John-weis@uiowa.edu

First time Faculty invention disclosure

Brenda Akins, Associate Director

UI Spinout Companies • Pamela York, Executive Director

319-335-4311

Pamela-york@uiowa.edu

<http://research.uiowa.edu/techtransfer/research-rights.htm>

Patent FAQ's • <http://www.piperpat.com/Default.aspx?tabid=62>

¹ See UI patent policy for details <http://www.uiowa.edu/~our/opmanual/v/30.htm>

² Public disclosure- online abstracts, conference presentations, public meetings, papers, lab websites, thesis and dissertation. Discussions with non-UI colleagues and internal UI presentations with outsiders present can also be public disclosures. Discuss with UIRF.