Guidebook of IP/Technology Transfer

Track 1 Entry-level Tech Transfer Professional

Topic 1.3

Responsibilities of

The Technology Transfer Professional

The Tech Transfer Professional should be aware of all the Elements of the Tech Transfer System

Contract management

Licensing

Tech marketing & Business Development

IP management

IP Policy

TTO governance, organization, operations

Industrial partnering policy

Invention disclosure system

Tech evaluation & selection

TTO Outreach & PR

The Tech Transfer Professional should understand the basic Tech Transfer Office functions

Technology Transfer Office responsible for:

- All IP Policy implementation
- Manage Invention Disclosure process
- Relationship management with inventors
- Invention evaluation & triage
- Patent filing, prosecution, maintenance
- Other IP management
- Technology Marketing, proactive "partnering"
- License negotiation, drafting, signing
- Contract monitoring and management
- Revenue collection and distribution
- IP Policy "troubleshooting"

Typical TTO Organization:

Key role of "Tech Manager"

In a typical model, the Technology Manager:

- Has "turn-key" responsibility for each assigned invention disclosure
- Responsible for shepherding invention through entire process
- Primary relationship with inventor(s)
- Actively markets technology
- Primary contact with potential licensees
- Negotiates and drafts license contract
- Remains "ombudsman" for relationship and contract

The TTP should understand how best to allocate their time on a weekly, monthly basis

Some important tasks:

- technology analysis, triage, selection
- outreach to internal and external constituents
- commercialization/business development
- technology marketing & business development
- inventor relationships
- license and other contract negotiation
- relationship management with licensees, joint owners
- entrepreneurship recruitment and support
- etc

Requires careful thinking about where time is invested

(invention analysis vs. marketing)

- Work towards efficiency
- Never forget key relationships

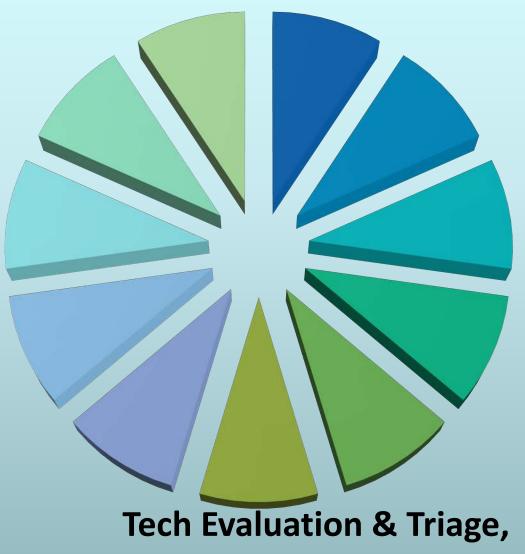
(inventors, potential/existing licensees

make them feel most valued)

- Careful attention to any Invention Disclosure
- Relationship between the TTO and inventors
- Technology evaluation and selection
- No accidental loss of any IP rights
- Managing the IP of assigned inventions
- Pre-negotiation valuation
- Developing a vision for invention commercialization
- Finding quality licensees
- Drafting Term Sheets, negotiating licenses
- Drafting license agreements
- Maintaining relationship with licensees
- Managing relationships with joint IP owners and research sponsors



- Communicate value of TTO to faculty, staff, and administrators
- Reaching out to faculty, staff, and students to increase awareness of IP/tech transfer
- Increasing awareness of TT by potential industrial partners, govt partners, local government, alumni
- Look for and promote good PR for TTO and university for tech transfer activities and successes



Pre-negotiation valuation

Technology assessment & characterization

Market applications and potential competitive advantages

Effective patentability (other IP/bioproperty)

The key decision: file or not to file?

Preliminary valuation as basis for negotiating position



NEVER lose IP rights by accident – only by choice! Non-disclosure procedures Property control position assessment patentability, copyright, PBR, bioproperty, tradesecret(?) Prior art search and patentability decisions Patent filing and prosecution PCT and foreign filing decisions **Enforcement** Cost/benefit of filing decisions Relationships with law firms

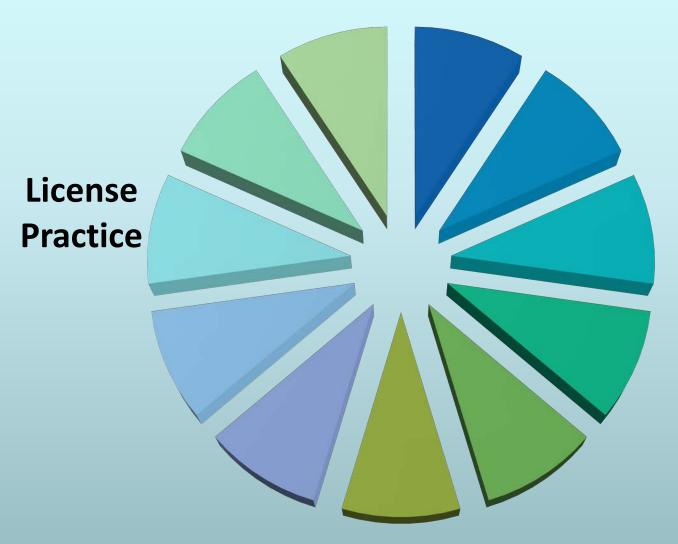


- Finding commercial partners
- Market application(s)
- Research into companies in industry
- Identification of potentially suitable partners
- Marketing tools: passive & active
- Contacts and follow-ups
- Web-based tech marketing
- Professional networking
- Showcasing events

TTP Responsibilities: Technology Marketing

Without marketing......
technology is rarely transferred

Always be marketing your technologies!



License not sale of IP

Thoroughly understand the institutions agreement templates non-disclosure, material transfer, inter-institutional, option, non-exclusive license, exclusive license,

Know the limits of negotiable terms and conditions

Know the standard provisions, and non-negotiable terms

Understand the acceptable forms of financial mechanisms

Signature authority; get decision-maker commitment before negotiations

Know institutional policy on exclusive licenses vs. nonexclusive



Post-signing management, proper hand-off to contract management

Aware of on-going monitoring of compliance

Managing problem contracts

Aware of accounts receivable relevant to negotiated contracts

Always looking for Viable Technology

Novel, unique, and inventive (not obvious)

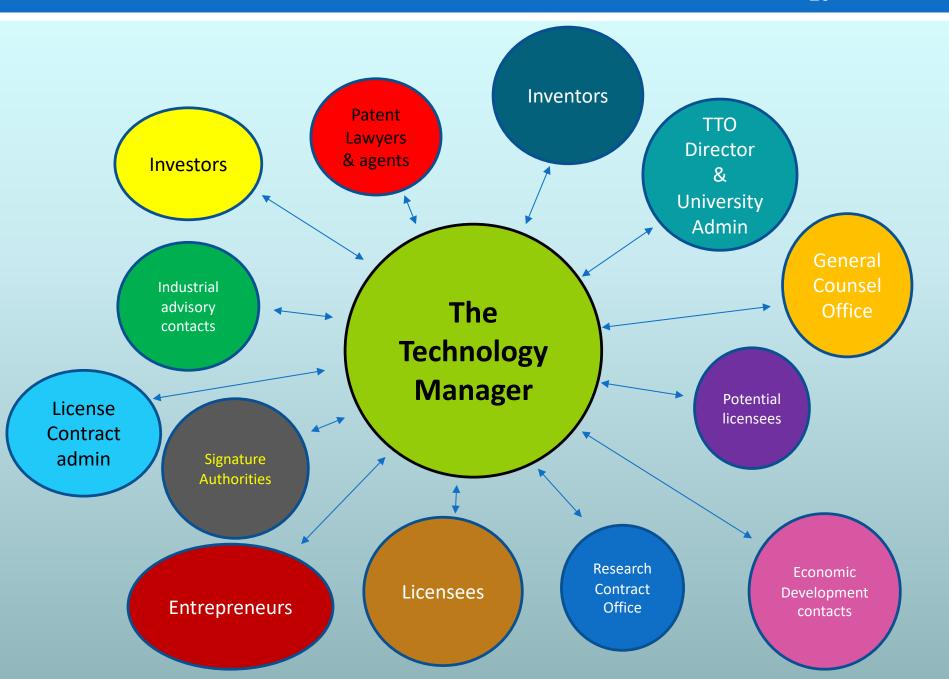
Commercially relevant, economically significant (don't forget philanthropic applications)

Significant advantage over alternatives

Protectable with effective property right mechanisms

Be on lookout for technologies with local/regional impact

Creation, building, and maintenance of good working relationships with many different constituents:



TTP Responsibilities & Duties:

- Operate at the highest ethical and professional standards
- Honesty and transparency
- Always do the right thing
- Protect the institution's reputation and your own
- No self-dealing
- Avoid gossip and detrimental talk of others
- Avoid your own conflicts of interest
- Be responsive
- Be optimistic and positive
- Avoid complaining
- Appreciate the honor of working with inventors and their inventions
- Stay curious
- Use your positive sense of humor and enjoyment of life

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Thank you