

Tech Transfer Times

Introducing

Two PVP's and Eight US Patents Issue in FY-14

- ◆ 'Carpio' Durum PVP No.
- 201300089
- ◆ 'Dakota Trailblazer' Potato PVP No.
- 201100304
- ◆ Five Coatings technologies US Patent Nos:
-8568832
-8604152
-8629210
-8703838
-8709394
- ◆ Two Liquid Silane technologies US Patent Nos.
-8609799
-8658829
- ◆ One laser ablation technology US Patent No.
- 8704348

NDSU Policy 190

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The purposes of this policy are to encourage and promote research and scholarship based on the traditional principles of the academic profession. Read NDSU Policy 190 at:

www.ndsu.edu/fileadmin/policy/190.pdf



Neeraj Visen joined NDSU TTO and NDSU Research Foundation as the Licensing Associate/Technology Manager on July 21, 2014. He comes to us from the University of Manitoba where he had 8 years of experience working in Technology Transfer. He joined the University of Manitoba's Technology Transfer Office in 2006 and led the office in generating new streams of royalty revenues. He was instrumental in several start-ups and license transactions with Fortune 500 companies for both physical and life science technologies. Dr. Visen is a registered Professional Engineer and a member of the Licensing Executive Society and the Association of University Technology Managers.

At NDSU he looks forward to meeting with researchers to learn about their areas of study, to guide them through the patenting process and to work with potential licensees of those technologies.



AnnaLisa Nash is the new Export Control Officer for NDSU in the Office for Research and Creative Activity. In this role, she will be responsible for developing, implementing, and managing an effective export compliance program for the University, providing guidance and consultation to faculty, staff, and administration on decisions with import/export impact.

She says that the connection between export controls and academia may not be obvious, since most institutions of higher education (including NDSU) don't often ship commodities from one country to another, which is our general understanding of an export. However, the term "export" also includes the disclosure or transfer of certain technical data or information to a foreign person, domestically or abroad. In other words, NDSU – with its scientific and engineering research programs, foreign students and faculty, foreign visiting researchers, and international research collaborations – could "export" controlled data or information to a foreign person without ever leaving NDSU's campus (this is called a "deemed export"), in violation of Federal export laws, through a simple conversation with an international student or by sending an email to an international colleague. Ultimately, NDSU is responsible for export compliance and will be held liable for any export violations, so it is important to understand how the laws apply to NDSU activities, as well as NDSU's corresponding compliance obligations.

She is working with the TTO to integrate an export compliance program into our existing evaluation of new technologies along with the documenting, licensing, and other functions. This TTO compliance program includes, amongst other things: screening international student inventors, post-docs, research assistants, and faculty; identifying and classifying new inventions and technologies that are, or may be, export-controlled; and incorporating export compliance clauses into TTO's existing contracts, agreements, and other documents.

Given the complexity of export controls issues, we would encourage the NDSU community to seek guidance from NDSU's Export Control Officer (ECO) when dealing with export control questions and concerns.

Flax Breeding Program at NDSU Introduces 'GoldND'

Jim Hammond, a flax breeder at NDSU since 1969, has developed a new variety of flax that was released by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (NDAES) earlier this year. '**GoldND**' is a golden flax variety as compared to brown flax that is more common. Flax seed is the richest source of alpha-linolenic acid an omega-3 fatty acid without the fishy aftertaste of fish oils.

Brown flax, although it has the same healthy omega-3's, is usually grown to make linseed oil and other paints and coatings, although it can be consumed and has similar health benefits. '**GoldND**', on the other hand, is preferred in human food products over the brown seeds, even though '**GoldND**' can also be used for industrial uses similar to brown flax, it is more desirable for the food industry. Food products made with '**GoldND**' and other yellow or golden seed coat colored flax seed has fewer brown specks and increased eye appeal in the end use product than brown seeded varieties.

North Dakota grows over 90% of the flax in the US and NDSU is one of only three flax breeding programs in North America. With flax oil and ground whole flaxseed being used in more products for health benefits and consumers using more of these products to improve heart health and reduce the risk of cancer, we see a bright future for '**GoldND**'.



Of Interest

Staff Restructured at NDSU Technology Transfer Office and the NDSU Research Foundation

For the past 6 years our offices have employed a Director with two Licensing Associates, along with two support staff until 2013 when the two Licensing Associates moved on to other positions. In the interim, we took a step back to consider restructuring the office with the input of the new Vice President of Research, Kelly Rusch. During this time, NDSURF used a part-time consultant, Jeff Carpenter of Bird Dog Innovation Strategies. Now with the recent hiring of Neeraj Visen, who offers a background in engineering, material science, computer software and medical and Jeff's background in Cell and Development Biology, Genetics and Biochemistry, we feel we have strong capabilities to support researchers across campus in most areas.

Additionally, Tracy Larson, our Administrative Assistant for over 4 years retired at the end of June. Denise Roehl moved to that position at the beginning of July. We will be looking at hiring a new Office Assistant in the near future.

Venture Grant Program



In its 2013 Session, the North Dakota Legislature established the Research ND program, whose goal was to create economic activity through the development of new technologies. The Legislature required that the Department of Commerce (NDDOC) designate up to \$2 million of the Research ND funds for venture grants designed to support the commercialization of intellectual property at the two ND Research Universities. Both NDSU and UND have the opportunity to use these funds.

To date NDSU researchers have submitted eleven Venture Grant proposals as of May, 2014. Four proposals have been funded. Those funded include coatings to inhibit zebra mussels, a cardiac pacing device, and two porcine virus vaccines. The other seven pending proposals were reviewed and will be further evaluated by a NDDOC committee. Four additional proposals were submitted in August.

Phase I awards are generally used to pursue information related to the feasibility of building a spinoff or start-up company, locating in North Dakota, around a specific technology or intellectual property. Activities that would be funded under a Phase I award would include, but may not be limited to, further development of the technology including further "proof of concept" or prototype development, market assessment, and costs related to securing IP protection. Phase I awards may be granted up to \$100,000 per project.

Phase II proposals will only be accepted from a Research University that has successfully completed the goals, milestones and objectives of the initial Phase I award. Phase II awards may be granted up to \$150,000 per project, but require a \$150,000 match.

The NDDOC recognizes that this is a new program and the Research University along with a new private sector partner may have made strides in moving technologies toward the market prior to the inception of this program. A Phase I/II program will allow a joint proposal to be filed by a Research University and the private sector. This combined two phased Award allows for Phase I Awards that may be granted up to \$50,000 and Phase II Awards that may be granted up to \$150,000 with a \$150,000 match.

If you have reported an invention to the NDSU TTO that has the potential for a start-up business, and would benefit from this program, feel free to contact our office for information. The next quarterly submission date for proposals will be November 21, 2014.

For more information as well as the instructions and application for the Venture Grants, visit the ND Commerce website: <http://www.commerce.nd.gov/research/ResearchNDRResources/>

Information on other Research ND program funding opportunities, which involves having an industry partner and matching dollars, is also available on the same website.

Q & A: What's so important about technology transfer?

Q: As a Professor/Researcher, why should I care about Technology Transfer?

A: According to AUTM's "More than Money: The Exponential Impact of Academic Technology Transfer", one of the main advantages is revenue generation, not only from finding a licensee, but also for attracting corporate research support from companies that may find it more cost-effective to work with university researchers than to set up new research labs, etc. at their companies.

Another advantage is that it promotes a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation in which fac-

ulty are rewarded and supported in their research efforts, including enhanced faculty recruitment and retention.

Another benefit is the prestige and recognition for discoveries made at the institution that can positively affect the university's reputation.

And maybe more importantly, the public benefit could potentially impact social, medical, agricultural, environmental and technical problems even if it does not increase revenue for researchers or the university.

Contact

Dale Zetocha
Director
dale.zetocha@ndsu.edu
231-8931

Neeraj Visen
Licensing Associate
Neeraj.visen@ndsu.edu
231-8173

Location:
Technology Transfer Office
1735 NDSU Research Park Dr.
Suite 124
Fargo, ND 58108-6050

Office: 701-231-6659