

Roles and Responsibilities in Tech Transfer

For faculty and other University inventors, participating in the technology transfer process provides the option of:

- disseminating technology through commercial mechanisms;
- enriching research through interactions with the private sector;
- providing a broader understanding of the commercialization process;
- supporting laboratory activities through sponsored research or license income;
- providing an outlet for entrepreneurial activities.

For the University, technology transfer is pursued to:

- bring the benefits of the University's research to the public;
- enhance the institution's reputation as a leading research and teaching university;
- support research activities, and the recruitment and retention of world-class faculty;
- enhance the University's financial resources.

Responsibilities of the University

- to maintain policies and infrastructure
- to report to sponsors and follow any other obligations
- to make sure technology with potential is developed in a diligent fashion
- to make rigorously market-based decisions on the commercial potential of new inventions or discoveries
- to involve faculty and researchers in the evaluation and, when appropriate, commercialization of technology
- to communicate clearly to faculty and researchers regarding technology transfer
- to ensure that the technology transfer process does not place undue burdens on the normal course of faculty's work and publishing

The obligations of the University - and its faculty - to research sponsors are specific and can expose the University significantly if not performed. By way of example, the obligations to the federal government with regard to inventions made using Federal research monies are listed in Section 3.C. at <http://www.cogr.edu/docs/Tutorial.doc> (MS Word).

Responsibilities of the Inventor

- to disclose all inventions and discoveries
- to make themselves available and in general assist with the processes of filing for intellectual property protection and the commercialization process

- to disclose conflicts of interest promptly and openly and cooperate in the management of any conflicts
- to provide UChicagoTech with a revenue sharing agreement (if there is more than one inventor) in a timely fashion
- to assist the University in meeting its obligations to sponsors of the inventor's research.