

Technology Transfer Office of the University of Zagreb: An Overview of Activities

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Technology Transfer

- Croatian Government has orientation towards building the knowledge-based economy
- Technology transfer from universities and research institutes to business sector is a very important part of this process
- This process has been neglected in Croatia for a long period of time

University of Zagreb

- The University of Zagreb has strong potential for technology transfer:
 - UZ makes significant part of Croatian academic community
 - UZ has long tradition in science and engineering
- The establishment of the Technology Transfer Office (TTO) may help make this process more efficient

TTO Working Group

- A working group to establish TTO was established in June 2007 by the Rector of the University of Zagreb
- The main task of the working group was to help establish TTO

Working Group Members

- Prof. Srđan Novak, Faculty of Food Technology and Biotechnology, Chair
- Prof. Melita Kovačević, Vice rector for science and technology, Group coordinator
- Prof. Sven Lončarić, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing
- Prof. Slobodan Vukičević, Faculty of Medicine
- Prof. Krešo Zadro, Faculty of Science
- Prof. Dorian Marjanović, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture

TTO Today

- Dr. sc. Vlatka Petrović, the first employee of the TTO
- Employed in TTO since January 1, 2008

TTO Goals

- Promoting the culture of innovativeness and academic entrepreneurship among all components of the University of Zagreb
- Building the system of services for IPR protection and promotion of 'Patenting Culture' among all components of the University of Zagreb

TTO Goals cont'd

- Taking proactive steps in helping researchers to shape future applied research projects towards optimal solutions of IP protection and commercialization
- Establishment of the system that will facilitate technology transfer from academic community to business sector and support the academic entrepreneurship

TTO Goals cont'd

- Stimulating the commercialization of R&D among all components (Faculties) of the University of Zagreb
- Taking active part in defining consistent and transparent legal and organizational framework for stimulation and smooth conduction of technology transfer at the University of Zagreb

TTO Goals cont'd

- Producing all necessary documents (starting from University IPR Policy) in order to achieve the goals mentioned above
- Networking of experts and researchers to facilitate the commercialization of scientific results

TTO – Basic Activities

- Promotion of 'Patenting Culture' through lectures, seminars, workshops, flyers, electronic advertising and direct contacts with researchers
- Screening for projects with commercialization potential through interviews with principal investigators of research projects
- Creation of necessary documents that will define IP ownership and revenue share scheme at University of Zagreb (IPR Policy)

TTO – Basic Activities cont'd

- Consulting principal investigators on IPR issues
- Conducting and co-financing of the commercial evaluation procedures for potential inventions
- Decision-making on protection of IP
- Consulting and financing the creation of IP protection documents (patents, copy-rights, contracts etc.)
- Financing of nationalization/regionalization fees for the first year

TTO – Basic Activities cont'd

- Consulting and guidance in post-filing period in order to bring the innovation to commercialization through licensing or establishing university spin-off companies
- Establishment of full TTO operation (documents, procedures, contracts, web page, dissemination flyer, list of consultants, networks, databases, etc.)
- Facilitating interdisciplinary research and expertise for complex projects with industry

World Bank support

- University of Zagreb to join the “Science and Technology Project” of MSES supported by the World Bank
- Goal: To support activities establishing TTO
- Currently ongoing preparations of business plan required to apply for World Bank financing

World Bank support

- World Bank would provide financing to support TTO activities:
 - Salary support
 - Consultant services required to establish TTO
 - Equipment
 - Initial funds for IPR protection at University of Zagreb

Thank you for your attention