Mid-Year Update

From Lesley Millar, Director

I am pleased to share this update on the activities of the Office of Technology Management. The foundation of our work is relationship building, both with corporate partners and within our campus community, and this is reflected in the efforts reported on here. As always, I invite your feedback on ways we can continue to improve our service.

Mid-Year Statistics
(July 1, 2006 - December 31, 2006)

- Disclosures: 89
- U.S. Patents Filed: 53
- U.S. Patents Issued: 23
- Licenses & Options: 17
- Licenses to Start-ups: 5
- Revenue: $1.750M

Total, Active, Issued U.S. Patents: 348

Mid-Year Comparison (Q1 + Q2)

- Disclosures: F06 vs. F07
- Patent Apps: F06 vs. F07
- L&O: F06 vs. F07

start-ups

DzymeTech*
Detecting heavy metals like lead and mercury in the environment in a rapid, portable test format.

Microlution
Advanced manufacturing solutions for the production of small, precision machined components.

Quicksilver Scientific
An environmental mercury testing firm.

Semprius*
Large-scale, high performance flexible and stretchable electronic circuits that can be applied to any surface.

Solidware*
Software tools that reduce defects in software code.

*IllinoisVENTURES invested in these start-ups.

For more information about the Office of Technology Management please call us at 217.333.7862 or visit our website at:

www.otm.uiuc.edu
Intern recruitment drive

The OTM is currently recruiting its next class of commercialization analyst interns. Commercialization analysts focus primarily on screening and evaluating new technology disclosures to determine commercialization potential and strength of intellectual property protection. Each analyst brings an undergraduate background in the sciences and is also pursuing a secondary degree in either business, law, or the sciences. Please contact Sean Reeder (sdreeder@uiuc.edu) if you think this program would be of interest to your students.

MS in Technology Management: Technology Practicum
Executive MBA: Entrepreneurism Course

The OTM is working with the College of Business on courses that provide students with experience in business case and feasibility analysis working on selected technologies from the OTM’s portfolio.

IGB & Economic Development

The OTM is collaborating with the Institute for Genomic Biology, the College of Business, the College of Law, and ACES on a proposal for a new theme at the IGB: BioBEL, the Business, Economics, and Law of Genomic Biology. Research in this theme will seek to increase understanding of the nature and structure of the biotechnology industry, the role of intellectual property protection in biotechnology innovation, and university-industry interaction.

Intellectual Property Mining: New Project

Over the past two years, the OTM has initiated intellectual property mining projects with centers and institutes across campus, to help them identify and disclose innovation. The latest project was begun in fall 2006 with the department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, in the College of ACES. If you are interested in initiating an IP mining project for your department or unit, please contact the OTM (333-7862).

Negotiation Short Course for Professionals

In conjunction with the College of Law and Legal Counsel, the OTM arranged a 7 week short course taught by Tina Gunsalus and Laura Clower bringing together 30 professionals from OTM, OVCR, OSPRA, Legal Counsel, Purchasing, and IRB.
activities

In fiscal 2007 the office is increasing the frequency and variety of opportunities for faculty, staff, and students to interact with the office and raise their awareness on intellectual property, licensing, and entrepreneurship.

In October 2006, the OTM and the College of Law co-sponsored the first presentation in a new seminar series on Intellectual Property Basics at the Alice Campbell Alumni Center. In the first session, Professors Jay Kesan and Larry Solum covered the fundamentals of patent law and copyright. The second installment in this series, Licensing University Intellectual Property, is scheduled for April 2007 and will feature a panel with a faculty entrepreneur, licensing expert, and an OTM technology manager to give several perspectives on the process. We videotape our seminars and archive them on our website. To view past presentations: http://www.otm.uiuc.edu/news/eventarchive.asp

We are also setting up a schedule of periodic coffee breaks, called Coffee Time With OTM, to give faculty time for informal communication and networking with our office. No presentations or pitches, just an opportunity to get to know the technology managers who work with your department. If you’d like us to offer a Coffee Time with OTM in your area, contact Nicole Nair (nnair@uiuc.edu).

We can make customized presentations on a range of topics involving intellectual property issues and campus technology transfer resources. We’ve also done tailored classroom sessions on these topics as part of a course curriculum. Contact Nicole Nair (nnair@uiuc.edu) for scheduling.

resources

The Office of Technology Management has a variety of brochures you might find useful, either for your faculty and staff or to give to corporate/industry visitors. These include:

For faculty, staff, and students:
FAQ’s about tech transfer
FAQ’s about software and copyrighted works
Patenting process
Public disclosure of inventions
Forming a start-up company
General University IP policy.

For corporate contacts:
Flyers describing individual technologies
Annual report
Newsletters that summarize technologies in specific areas

Contact Nicole Nair (nnair@uiuc.edu) for materials or racks to store them.
industry relationships

Sponsored Research Agreements
The role of the Office of Technology Management includes designing creative and responsive business models for handling intellectual property generated in the course of corporate-sponsored research. In this tough funding climate, the office recognizes the importance of making sure the University is recognized as flexible and fair with intellectual property terms. The office works closely with the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research Administration (OSPRA, 333-2187) on the intellectual property portions of sponsored research agreements. Contact our office if you would like information about options for structuring intellectual property terms or if you would like assistance with an agreement (333-7862).

Company meetings
In the first half of 2007, the OTM has met with more than 11 companies visiting campus to negotiate licenses, discuss intellectual property in sponsored research agreements, and form new relationships.

International collaboration
As campus becomes more global, the OTM, through the OVCR, is contributing to the development of international agreements. One such agreement under discussion is with A*Star, Singapore’s agency for science, technology and research. In addition, we have established relationships with the National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technical University. The aim is to encourage a UI presence in Singapore as well as provide opportunities for graduate students and professors.

The campus model for technology transfer has received positive attention overseas, and we’ve recently met with visitors from the University of Tokyo and Tsinghua University to share our expertise.

tradeshows and conferences
More than 16 conferences and tradeshows are on the office’s schedule in fiscal 2007. These range from the World Dairy Expo to the Nanotech Investing Forum to the Biotechnology Industry Organization International Convention. We use our time at these events to maximize our opportunities to make new licensing contacts.