# Intellectual Property and Commercialization

**Office of Technology Management** 

Christine F. Weaver, Ph.D. Director, Licensing & New Venture Development



The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

### **Technology Transfer: What is it?**

### It's all about getting from HERE.....



....to HERE



Intellectual Property!

- Process of transferring UTHealth discoveries from the lab/clinic to the private sector for commercial development
- Link between <u>research</u> and <u>commercialization</u>
- Licensing is primary vehicle in academia

### What is Intellectual Property (IP)?

# A product of the mind that has commercial value

- **Patent** (plants, utility, design)
- **Copyright** (music, graphics, written matter, software)
- Trademarks (name, sound, logo)
- Trade secrets (customer list, formula, know-how)
- **Software** (may be included in patents and copyrights)
- Tangible Research Property (biological materials, prototypes, databases, devices, equipment)



### What is a Patent?

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U.S. Constitution: Article I: Section 8, Clause 8:

- The Congress shall have power ... To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries.
- ...patent law seeks to foster and reward invention... to promote disclosure of inventions... to stimulate further invention... and to permit free use of items in the public domain. U.S. Supreme Ct. (1979)

### What does a Patent do?

the *right to exclude* others from "making, using, offering for sale, or selling the invention throughout the U.S. or importing the invention into the U.S." for a period of 20 years from the date of filing the patent application. (35 U.S.C. 154 (1994)



# Copyright

The exclusive right, granted by law, to the creator of a work to make, print, publish, perform/record and otherwise to control the use of a literary, dramatic, musical, artistic, or other work. <u>May include software</u>. Cost is minimal.

### Trademark

"Words, names, symbol, device, slogan, packaging design or combination of these that serves to identify and distinguish one specific product from others. Includes sound, color combinations, or smell."

Can be registered. Cost can vary







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### **Intellectual Property Protection**

- Patent 20 years from filing of application
- Copyright Lifetime of creator plus 50 years – Happy Birthday!
- Trademark 20 years, extendable
- Trade Secret Forever, if careful

Each protection strategy provides the owner with the ability to exclude others from using the technology unless licensed, for a specified time period.

## Who owns IP?

The Board of Regents of the University of Texas System <u>owns</u> the IP when it is:

- created within an employee's scope of employment; or
- created on <u>UT System time</u>, or with <u>use of UT System</u> <u>facilities/resources</u>; or
- Resulting from <u>research supported</u> by Federal Funds or 3<sup>rd</sup> party sponsorship or university gift.

### What is a Invention?

- An invention is a solution to a technical problem
- Inventions are important, but <u>not everything</u> <u>important</u> is an invention.
- An invention starts with an idea, but <u>must be more</u> than an idea
  - <u>Conception</u> and <u>reduction to practice</u>

# **Patentable Inventions?**

#### Some inventions are patentable and some are not. •

- Judicial exceptions: abstract idea, law of nature or natural phenomenon, humans
- In the U.S., a patentable invention must be claimed as either a •
  - machine
  - a composition of matter
  - Method or a process

2. A method of identifying a vulnerable atherosclerotic plaque in a living vessel comprising the steps of:

detecting a region along the luminal wall having a temperature that is higher than that of an adjacent region; and

locating the vulnerable plaque based upon the higher temperature of the detected region.

- a manufacture
- Must be new, useful, and non-obvious.









# Can I patent this?

•	Perpetual motion machine	No
•	Naturally-occurring culture of microorganisms	No
•	Enriched or pure culture of microorganisms	Yes
•	Human Gene	No
•	Word-processing application stored on a disk	Yes
•	Song stored on a disk	No
•	Genetically-engineered mouse	Yes
•	Genetically-engineered human	No
•	A new use for aspirin	Yes?
•	Medical or surgical procedure	Yes, but
•	Method of doing business	Maybe?
•	Diagnostic assay	Maybe?
•	Algorithm	Maybe?



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(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Pitts & Brittian, P.C.

ABSTRACT

An amusement apparatus including a user-operated and

controlled apparatus for self-infliction of repetitive blows to

the user's buttocks by a plurality of clongated arms bearing

flexible extensions that rotate under the user's control. The apparatus includes a platform foldable at a mid-section,

having first post and second upstanding posts detachably mounted thereon. The first post is provided with a crank

positioned at a height thereon which requires the user to bend forward toward the first post while grasping the crank with both hands, to prominently present his buttocks toward the second post. The second post is provided with a plurality of rotating arms detachably mounted thereon, with a central

axis of the rotating arms positioned at a height generally

level with the user's buttocks. The elongated arms are propelled by the user's movement of the crank, which is

operatively connected by a drive train to the central axis of the rotating arms. As the user rotates the erank, the user's buttocks are paddled by flexible shoes located on each outboard end of the elongated arms to provide amusement to the user and viewers of the paddling. The amusement apparatus is foldable into a self-contained package for

Primary Examiner-loe H. Cheng

(57)

storage or shipping.

Assistant Examiner-Kim T. Nguyen

(12) United States Patent

(10) Patent No.: US 6,293,874 B1

Armstrong

- USER-OPERATED AMUSEMENT (54)APPARATUS FOR KICKING THE USER'S BUTTOCKS
- (76) Inventor: Joe W. Armstrong, 306 Kingston St., Lenoir, TN (US) 37771-2408
- (\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.
- (21) Appl. No.: 09/477,175
- (22) Filed: Jan. 4. 2000

(51)	Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup>	 A63H .	37/00
(52)	U.S. Cl	 . 472/51; 4	72/55
(58)	Field of Search	 472/51, 55,	137;
		482/51, 72	, 148

#### (56) References Cited

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#### \* cited by examiner

14 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets



# Just because

## you can?

#### (54) USER-OPERATED AMUSEMENT APPARATUS FOR KICKING THE USER'S BUTTOCKS

(45) Date of Patent: Sep. 25, 2001

# Who is an Inventor?

- A person who conceives, produces or contrives something previously unknown by the use of ingenuity or imagination
- Co-inventors if each contribute to the inventive process, even if unequally
- Not necessarily co-inventor if only following directions
  - A co-author is not necessarily an inventor
  - Inventorship is dependent on the specific claims in an application
    - Co-Inventors have equal rights (not as a percentage of contribution)
- A matter of **LAW**

# Why do I care about IP?

- IP is a way to translate your research to the marketplace— <u>OTM is your link</u> to commercialization, i.e. through existing or new businesses, investors (\$\$), etc.
- Federal Grant Agencies <u>require</u> IP to be reported not only on your grant report, but through our office (iEdison)
  - Bayh-Dole Act 1980's
    - Created environment for technology transfer from universities
    - Government reporting requirements for inventions made using federal funds





### I think I have an invention....what do I do next?

Page 1 of 5¶

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For OTM use only1 the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston						
OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT+-' TECHNOLOGY REPORT						
Name:R     H     Employer:R     UTHealth     Other (Name):     H       School:H     H     %Time Employed by UTHealth H     %H     %H       Title:H     H     %Time Employed by UTHealth H     %H     %H       Department:H     H     %Time Employed by Other H     %H       Work Address:H     H     Other AppointmentH     None     Clayton     Other:     H       Work Phone:H     H     Home Address:H     H     H     Citizenship:     H       Work Email:H     H     Personal Email:H     H     Citizenship:     H       Work is this individual''s contribution:H     K     Note: OTM should be informed of any changes to the above informationH						
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Name:R     H     Employer:R     UTHealth     Other (Name):     H       School:H     H     % Time Employed by UTHealth     M     %H       Title:R     H     % Time Employed by Other#     %H       Department:R     H     Other Appointment#     %H       Work Address:R     H     Other Appointment#     H       Work Address:R     H     Home Address:R     H       Work Email:R     H     Personal Email:R     H       Other Information#     Note: OTM should be informed of any changes to the above information#       What is this individual's contribution:R     H						



- Copyright Disclosure Form
- Software Disclosure Form
- Research Material Form

OTM's report form (left), as well as a wealth of IP related information for inventors, can be found on OTM's website:

#### www.uth.tmc.edu/otm

#### CONFIDENTIA

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#### Latest Technologies

See All Available Technologies

#### Office of Technology Management University Center Tower (UCT) 7000 Fannin Street, Suite 1400 Houston, Texas 77030 Phone: 713-500-3369 Fax: 713-500-0331 Email: otm@uth.tmc.edu

Q

November 12, 2024:

#### Apply to 2025 TMCi **Biodesign Program**

News & Events:

The 2025 TMCi Biodesign Program applications are now open until lon-



### **Forms and Instructions**

Office of Technology Management Home For Inventors For Inventors Forms and Instructions Policies and Regulations Education and Training Available Technologies Events & News Startups  $\mathbf{\nabla}$ **Funding Opportunities** Resources Who We Are • FAQ

Technology Report Forms (submit via email):

- Technology Report Form: Patents
- Additional Creator Addendum Form-Patents
- Technology Report Form: Software
  - Additional Creator Addendum Form-Software
- Technology Report Form: Copyright
- Additional Creator Addendum Form-Copyright
- Technology Report Form: Research Material

4 types of disclosure forms to choose from depending on technology and/or protection pathway of interest

Alternatively, OTM has started to use an online portal for submission of new technology report forms. It is still in testing phase, but if you are interested in submitting via OTM's Inventor Portal (and by doing so, helping us navigate this new process), please request access here: https://inteumweb.uth.tmc.edu/inteumweb/inventorportal/login.aspx

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO COMPLETING A REPORT FORM

#### Submit a Report Form to the Office of Technology Management (OTM)

The submission of a report form is the initial step in the intellectual property process.



# Search & Assess the Technology

<u>Qualitative</u> assessment of potential product

- The technology should lead to a useful, commercially valuable product
- Intellectual property protection; technology should be adequately protected; other IP must not block the path to commercialization
- Path-to-market; clear business model/strategy for generating profit
- Regulatory issues
- Commercial Partnership Opportunity
- Licensing: Big company vs. small company vs. start-up company









# What additional information do we need to know for IP Protection?

- Is there Novelty/Obviousness
- Public Disclosures?
- Funding Sources
- License Agreements
- Sponsored Research Agreements
- Material Transfer Agreements
- Software Agreements
- Clinical Trial Agreements
- Inventors' employment



### Why Assess? Why not just file?

### Obtaining a patent is expensive!

- An average of \$15,000+ in legal fees just to file a US patent application, \$25,000 to issue
- An average of 3-5 years to prosecute a US patent
- An estimated \$480,000 in legal fees to file and maintain US and standard foreign venues



## Commercialization

- Valuation
- Negotiation
- Execution of Agreements
- Agreement Management

# What's the benefit to you?

At UTHealth, we distribute cash received from the licensing of your IP as follows:

- Creators 50%
- Patent fund/OTM 35%
- Your School 5%
- Your Department 5%
- Your Laboratory 5%



# We Need Your Help!

- Talk to us (as EARLY as possible)
- Confidentiality—UT authorized signature needed on CDAs/NDAs
- Documentation/Record Keeping
- Assist with searching
  - Scientific Literature
  - Patents
  - Commercial potential
  - Licensee Identification
- Assist with patent prosecution
- Assist with licensing

### **OTM By The Numbers**

\$5.3+ million Annual Gross Revenue (average)
\$127+ million Licensing Revenue (cumulative)
23+ New License/Option Agreements per Year (average)
700+ Total License/Option Agreements (cumulative)
3000+ Patents/Patent Applications (cumulative)
48 New US Patent Applications Filed Each Year (average)
100+ Products on the Market

#### Portfolio Companies (UTHealth)

- 66 portfolio companies (cumulative); 42 active
- More than \$250 M in capital raised to date
- •3 companies IPO/acquired with market cap >\$3B including Volcano, LifeCell
- More than >1300 jobs created in private and 3 public companies

### Cellvation" **X**Cath WNIRIX DECISIO zecaB NanoMedical Systems Zymo **Pharmaceuticals** LLC

**Selected Portfolio Companies:** 

# MOREInformation



### otm@uth.tmc.edu



uth.tmc.edu/otm



@UTHealth\_OTM



UTHealth Office of Technology Management

### **Contact Us: We are here to help YOU!**

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> Thao N. Nguyen, Ph.D. Postdoctoral Fellow (713) 500-3377 direct Thao.N.Nguyen@uth.tmc.edu

### **Device Example: Portable Fluid Warmer**



### **Device Example: Portable Fluid Warmer**



Various fluid warmer prototypes over the years, from research prototype to FDA approved product for sale

### Software Example: Patient Dashboard



- 1 issued patent in the United States
- patents pending in the United States and abroad
- 1 startup company formed: Decisio Health
- FDA 510(k) clearance received in FY2014

### Timeline\*



### Software Example : Patient Dashboard



### Software Example : Patient Dashboard

Timeline

ATIENT: XRAY0001 F/25

Morphine 4mg 00:00:14

Chest Tube - R 00:00:10

Intubation

