Working With the USC Stevens Center for Innovation
Our Mission

• To maximize the translation of USC research into products for public benefit through licenses, collaborations and the promotion of entrepreneurship and innovation.

Serve as university-wide resource for USC innovators

Manage commercialization of inventions resulting from the university’s $956 million research portfolio

Foster innovation through startups, corporate collaborations, sponsored events and programs
Increasing Impact of USC Research

Technology Commercialization
5-Year Dashboard
FY17 – FY21

- 1,202 Invention Disclosures
- 353 US Patents Issued
- 239 Licenses
- 47 Startups
- $40.6M Licensing Revenue
## Functions and Services – USC Owned IP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manage the invention life cycle</th>
<th>Support USC startups and entrepreneurs</th>
<th>Seek and promote RFPs for corporate research funding</th>
<th>Negotiate and manage MTAs and DTAs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop and administer patent strategy</td>
<td>Facilitate meetings between faculty and investors</td>
<td>Establish relationships with corporate partners</td>
<td>Negotiate and manage CDAs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Market technologies and negotiate commercial licenses</td>
<td>Promote and support global partnerships</td>
<td>Administer royalty distributions</td>
<td>Offer IP and commercialization education for faculty and students</td>
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<td>Develop and fund innovation programs</td>
<td>Manage federal compliance reporting</td>
<td>Review and negotiate exceptional IP terms</td>
<td>Oversee contract administration and compliance</td>
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Our Commercialization Process

1. USC Scientific Discovery
2. Invention Disclosure to USC Stevens
3. Preliminary Review
4. Intellectual Property Protection
5. Business Development/Marketing to Potential Partners
6. License to Company or USC Startup
7. Development & Commercialization by Licensee
8. Product Sales, Technology Impact & Royalty Income

Ongoing Assessment
Bayh-Dole and Tech Transfer

• Federal legislation enacted in 1980
• Allowed universities to retain title to inventions made with federal funding (title previously held by federal government)

Sen. Birch Bayh (Indiana) and Sen. Bob Dole (Kansas)
Bayh-Dole Obligations

• Faculty and university are required:
  • To file disclosure with the tech transfer office for anything which is conceived OR reduced to practice, AND which is or MAY BE patentable.
  • In order to meet our compliance reporting obligations, disclosures must be completed 90 days prior to any statutory bar (anything which would result in the loss of patent rights, such as a publication, abstract, presentation, etc.)
Why Disclose?

• Keep USC compliant with Bayh-Dole reporting requirements
• Highlight social and economic impact of your research
• Develop products and services that benefit the public
• Boost local economy through job creation and new companies
• Attract and retain scientific talent
• Attract corporate and other external research support
• Generate licensing revenue to further research
Get Started: Disclose Your Invention

- Critical first step in protecting your intellectual property rights
- Ensures that your innovation will be considered for patent protection at the earliest opportunity
Confidentiality, Data and Material Transfer Agreements

- To enhance USC research and increase collaboration with industry, nonprofits, and other academic institutions, we facilitate the transfer of materials to and from our campuses.
- Examples of types of materials requested:
  - Biological (from DNA to live animals)
  - Non-biological
  - Chemical compounds
  - Data contained in databases
  - Software/code
- Agreements to provide rights to use data for research or education purposes are also managed through this process.
How CDAs, MTAs & DTAs Protect Your Research

- Address ownership, ability to publish
- Protect proprietary information from unauthorized use/distribution
- Can resolve issues pertaining to liability, academic credit, other disagreements

Without an MTA you risk giving away material and losing control of it
Get Started: Request an Agreement

- Submit a request and save time with online MTA/DTA/CDA portal
Programs and Outreach Summary

Technology Advancement Grants (TAG)
• Provide support for early-stage technologies invented at USC through validation or proof-of-concept development. Funding of up to $50,000 per project. Total of $975,000 in funding since 2016.

Student Innovator Showcase
• Over $30,000 awarded annually to USC student inventions and startups. SIS: $208,000 in cash and $30,000 in in-kind awards since 2007.

National Academy of Inventors
• USC launched an NAI chapter in 2017 to honor USC inventors. USC is home to 18 NAI Fellows.

Technology Commercialization Awards
• Annual USC Stevens awards to recognize licensing successes.

Innovation Summit
• Daylong event showcasing USC startups and technologies to the venture, business, and university community. Inaugural event in March 2019 drew nearly 200 attendees. Hope to resume in 2023.
Programs and Outreach Summary (cont’d)

Innovation Webinars
• Webinar series for faculty, students, and entrepreneurs co-hosted with USC NAI Chapter.

Legal Office Hours
• Free legal counseling to all USC innovators (faculty, students, staff, alumni) on patent and business issues

Innovation Interns
• A competitive paid internship for USC students who wish to gain experience in technology assessment, market research, and new venture planning.

Requests for Proposals
• Coordination of external competitive funding opportunities.
Have Questions or Need Assistance? How to Find Your Licensing Associate

Locate the designated licensing associate for your department or college.
How to Contact Us

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