



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT - RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 Franklin Street, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

February 27, 2023

CHANCELLORS
ACADEMIC COUNCIL CHAIR COCHRAN
LABORATORY DIRECTOR WITHERELL
ANR VICE PRESIDENT HUMISTON

Re: Systemwide Review of Proposed Presidential Policy on Inventions, Patents, and Innovation Transfer

Dear Colleagues:

Enclosed for systemwide review are proposed revisions to the Presidential Policy on Inventions, Patents, and Innovation Transfer.

In December 2019, the Board of Regents formed the Regents Working Group on Innovation Transfer and Entrepreneurship to understand how the University could better promote innovation transfer and entrepreneurship and take advantage of campus-based opportunities. In May 2021, the Regents Working Group on Innovation Transfer and Entrepreneurship published a [report](#) recommending updating policies, including the existing UC Patent Policy, to reflect current business needs. The report states that the responsibility, authority, and accountability for innovation transfer and entrepreneurship shall reside generally with the campuses. In conjunction with the report, the Board of Regents issued [Regents Policy 5105: Innovation Transfer & Entrepreneurship](#), further recommending that UCOP modernize its policies governing innovation transfer and entrepreneurship.

In response, the Research Policy Analysis and Coordination (RPAC) unit assembled a Patent Policy Review Group to review and revise the existing UC Patent Policy. The group focused on shifting UCOP's authority over intellectual property to campuses, removing outdated procedural details, and expanding the policy's scope to many types of intellectual property that are important to innovation transfer. The revised version of the Patent Policy explicitly gives campuses authority over innovation transfer and intellectual property related decisions and expands the scope of the policy to address unpatentable innovations of interest to extramural sponsors and licensees. It also renames the policy to the Policy on Inventions, Patents, and Innovation Transfer to reflect the expanded scope.

Systemwide Review

Systemwide review is a public review distributed to the Chancellors, the Chair of the Academic Council, the Director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and the Vice President of Agriculture and Natural Resources requesting that they inform the general University community, especially affected employees, about policy proposals. Systemwide review also includes a mandatory, 90-day full Senate review.

Employees should be afforded the opportunity to review and comment on the draft policy. Attached is a Model Communication which may be used to inform non-exclusively represented employees about these proposals. The Labor Relations Office at the Office of the President is responsible for informing the bargaining units representing union membership about policy proposals.

We would appreciate receiving your comments no later than May 31, 2023. Please submit your comments to RPAC@ucop.edu with the subject line "Inventions, Patents, and Innovation Transfer Policy Comments." If you have any questions, please contact Felice Lu a at Felice.Lu@ucop.edu or (510) 987-0348.

Sincerely,



Theresa A. Maldonado, Ph.D., P.E.
Vice President, Research & Innovation
University of California Office of the President

Enclosures:

- 1) Draft Presidential Policy on Inventions, Patents, and Innovation Transfer (clean copy)
- 2) Draft Presidential Policy on Inventions, Patents, and Innovation Transfer (tracked-changes copy)
- 3) Model Communication

cc: President Drake

Provost and Executive Vice President Newman
Executive Vice Chancellors/Provosts
Executive Vice President Byington
Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Nava
Senior Vice President Bustamante
Vice Provost Haynes
Vice President and Vice Provost Gullatt
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Manager Garza
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