UAF Intellectual Property and Commercialization:

On the Path to Economic Development

Daniel M. White - Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, UAF
Adam Krynicki – OIPC Intellectual Property Specialist, UAF
Research Commercialization

Research is more than developing, ideas, basic sciences, and technology. Research is a driver of economic development.

Engineering, biological sciences, biomedicine, agriculture, and geophysics are a few of the areas with great depth at UAF. By fostering this research and providing clear pathways for bringing this technology to market, we can create new opportunities for businesses, industry, and resource development in Alaska.

Technological development diversifies the economy, and creates jobs. Further, these efforts can lead to new research opportunities, produce a new revenue stream for UAF, and enhance UAF as a top tier university.
Who We Are

The Office of Intellectual Property and Commercialization (OIPC) fills a basic need for handling IP issues and grows UAF’s opportunities for commercialization and economic development.
The Commercialization Process

- Research
- Discovery
- Evaluation
- Legal Protection
- Marketing
- Licensing

Technological and Business Development
SWOT

Strengths
In spite of a lack of IP commercialization in the past, we have pockets of entrepreneurial faculty, staff, and students.

Weaknesses
We have no significant history of supporting and developing IP and commercialization.

Opportunities
There are many faculty at UAF who have projects that have not been developed with respect to IP and commercialization.

Threats
IP and commercialization efforts take time, commitment, and innovative thinking to develop. We cannot give up before the process has an opportunity to mature.
Hot Technology Areas

- SIDS Diagnosis Tools
- Arctic Ground Squirrel Hibernation
- Alzheimer's Drug Research
- Nutraceuticals / Pharmaceuticals
- Energy R & D
- DOD technologies with Springboard
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
- Remote Predictive Mapping
- Transportation and Infrastructure
Making Progress

OIPC Statistics, FY12 to date (Jan. 30, 2012)

Engaged over 37 faculty, staff, and student inventors in our process
Explored 34 Inventions
Reviewed 16 contracts for intellectual property language
Received 16 New Invention Disclosures
Executed 11 Non-Disclosure Agreements
Closed 4 Invention Portfolios due to the existence of prior art and/or low marketability
Filed 3 new Provisional Patents
Prepared 3 new Provisional Patents
Executed 1 Proprietary License
Executed 1 Open Source License
Created 1 Collaborative Research Agreement
Increasing Our Invention Disclosures
Our Strategy

• Market the office inside and outside the university to increase engagement.
• Engage faculty in the process of IP development.
• Provide a venue that will attract angel investors, venture capitalists, and businesses.
• Focus on the process of IP and commercialization at UAF.
• Evaluate the possibility of a non-profit corporation to manage IP
• Recognize and appreciate that it will take time and money to make it work.
• Focus on making the office’s programs scalable and economically efficient.
Broadening the Portfolio

- Continue Development of traditional model
- Increase Sponsored Research Agreements and SBIRs
- Build strategic relationships with other universities and industry clusters
- Work with private sector where IP is held privately
- Create scalable models for University start-ups and spinouts
Growing our Efforts

- OIPC is currently searching for a technology commercialization officer
- UAF, UAA, and UAS are developing an MOU that focuses on engagement of inventors, and leveraging our combined capabilities.
- Reviewing opportunities for corporation/foundation to develop IP and reduce conflicts
- Developing economic development partnerships
- Developing prospects for Near Term Activity
For more information, contact:
Adam Krynicki
Intellectual Property Specialist
akrynicki@alaska.edu
907-474-2626
University of Alaska Fairbanks
3352 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99775-7265