Do you have an invention? Tell us about it - we’ll help you realize its commercial potential!

OIC assists UC San Diego researchers through the entire innovation and commercialization cycle

Invention disclosure - the first step

Disclosing your invention to the Office of Innovation and Commercialization (OIC) starts the process of converting your research breakthroughs into products that benefit society. The eDisclosure system provides a secure web-based method to submit, update, manage and track your invention disclosure (see [http://blink.ucsd.edu/research/conducting-research/edisclosure/](http://blink.ucsd.edu/research/conducting-research/edisclosure/)).

Innate disclosure - the first step

Innate disclosure - the first step

When to submit your invention disclosure?

You should submit an invention disclosure as soon as you think that you have a potentially valuable innovation and can provide a reasonably clear description of it. Early submission will allow OIC to assess your invention towards a timely filing of a patent application with the US Patent and Trademark Office. When in doubt, contact OIC to discuss your idea. As a rule of thumb, let OIC know about your invention before discussing it with anyone outside your circle of UC San Diego researchers and co-workers. Novelty is a key criterion of patentability, so prior to filing, taking precautions to limit public availability of information about your invention would help ensure the preservation of its patent rights.

What to expect upon disclosing an invention

An OIC licensing officer (LO) will be designated to partner with you to formulate and pursue a patenting, marketing and commercialization strategy that aligns with your development efforts and carves a path to success. Your LO will meet with you to discuss your invention, its applications, possible patent claims (composition, method, device, article of manufacture), any sponsors and non-UC inventors, potential partners and your plans to publish or present the invention.

Next steps, moving your innovation forward

- Your LO will perform a preliminary assessment of the pertinent intellectual property landscape and provide guidance on filing a provisional patent application. Key questions include:
  - Does your invention meet the criteria of patentable subject matter, novelty, non-obviousness and usefulness?
  - Is there sufficient enablement of your invention (details of making and using it)?
  - Will there be further development within the coming year?
  - Would your invention be of commercial value and interest?
- Assuming your invention is viable and/or a provisional application is filed, OIC will conduct research into the relevant markets.
- With your input and participation, OIC will market the technology and engage with potential licensees, including existing corporate entities and entrepreneurs seeking to launch a new startup (possibly with you as founder).
- You should keep OIC updated on subsequent progress in the development of the invention. This will be a factor in deciding whether or not to proceed with a full application by the 1-year anniversary of the provisional filing.
- In the absence of further technology advancement and evidence of commercial value and interest, a full patent application will typically not be pursued. Under certain conditions, it is possible for UC to release the invention to you.
- Pursuit of a full patent application involves stages of patent prosecution which are directed towards the issue of potentially valuable patent claims.
- Ideally, OIC will be able to license your invention, providing tangible validation of your innovation as well as economic and social benefit.

Fueling Innovation for a Robust Economy