

Technology Transfer Process

A glance at the commercialization process at UNeMed, the technology transfer office for all Omaha campuses at the University of Nebraska.



tech transfer for nebraska

INNOVATION

imagine a better world



An invention is any new useful process, machine, composition of matter or any improvement to those things. That could mean creating a solution to a problem in a new way; or discovering something new and unknown; or finding a better way to perform a task or improve an existing device or process. UNeMed is a champion for innovation and an inventor's greatest ally. Let them help you.

COMMERCIALIZATION

make the world better



The licensee advances a technology, and makes it publicly available on the open market. This final step may require regulatory approval, sales and marketing support, training, product testing, and other activities appropriate to the technology and its market. A portion of any revenue is then distributed to inventors in accordance to institutional policy. Any remaining revenue feeds additional research...and more innovation, renewing the cycle.

LICENSING

move to the market



A license agreement is a contract that grants limited rights to a technology without giving up ownership. Most often those rights allow a licensee to use their resources to further develop a technology. An "option agreement" is sometimes used to enable a third party to evaluate a technology for a limited time before committing to a licensing contract. License agreements often result in additional funding for the inventor to further refine their ideas.

MARKETING

find the right partner

UNeMed identifies potential commercial partners who have the necessary expertise, resources and business networks to bring technologies to market. This may involve an existing company or forming a startup company. UNeMed works with potential licensees to fully commercialize the technology to market, where it can actually help people rather than languish on a shelf somewhere as an interesting journal article.

DISCLOSURE

protect before you publish



The technology transfer process formally begins with the submission of a written New Invention Notification form. The paperwork is strictly confidential, and should fully document the invention so that all options for commercialization can be evaluated. This critical step establishes a papertrail that can validate when an invention was conceived, an important factor when securing intellectual property.

EVALUATION

pursue the new



UNeMed reviews the technology as disclosed in the New Invention Notification, and searches publication and patent databases for similar innovations. UNeMed also analyzes potential markets and competitive technologies to determine commercialization possibilities.

PROTECTION

shield innovation



When appropriate, UNeMed will protect inventions with patent applications in the United States and abroad. Other protection methods include copyright, trademark, trade secrets and contractual use restrictions. Once basic protections are in place, UNeMed can begin marketing the technology to potential commercial partners.

