



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

UOM COMMERCIAL LTD

# Intellectual Property at The University of Melbourne

Dr Lachlan Wilson  
Intellectual Property Manager

# Summary

1. University IP Objectives
2. Ownership of Intellectual Property
3. Rewards for Creators
4. Capturing IP



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

UOM COMMERCIAL LTD

# University Intellectual Property Objectives

- The University of Melbourne seeks to foster a culture which supports knowledge creation, knowledge transfer and entrepreneurial endeavour
- The University manages intellectual property created as a result of its various activities in a manner that furthers its mission and benefits the wider community
  - To attract research investment and research collaborators
  - Encourage the use of innovative teaching and learning materials and technologies
  - Promote linkages with industry and other universities
  - Attract, reward and retain outstanding staff and students
  - Increase transfer of knowledge to business and society
  - Generate financial returns for the University and the creators of intellectual property

# UoM Commercial Ltd

*“Delivering commercial outcomes for the University of Melbourne’s intellectual assets and capabilities”*

Wholly owned subsidiary company of the University incorporating previous activities of Melbourne Ventures, Curriculum Licensing Services and Melbourne Consulting and Custom Programs

- Services Commercialisation Division: supporting the delivery of customised programs and consultancies
- Technology Commercialisation Division: identification and commercialisation of new technologies through licensing and start up company formation.

# Ownership of Intellectual Property

- Staff
  - The University owns all intellectual property created by staff
  - This includes teaching materials created by staff
  - But does not include ‘Scholarly Works’ such as
    - articles,
    - books,
    - musical compositions and
    - creative writing

# Ownership of Intellectual Property

- Students
  - The University has no rights to IP developed by students
  - Students often work on team-based projects such as CRCs
  - Most inventions are created by more than one person
  - Agreements are often in place to determine IP ownership of the project outcomes

# Rewards for Creators

- The University's view is that creators of valuable IP should be eligible for reward.
  - The University and Faculty receive a share of the funds in acknowledgement of their role in supporting the development, protection and commercialisation of the IP
  - All creators of IP should share equitable in the returns in accordance with the contribution they have made to the IP
    - University = 20%
    - Faculty = 40%
    - Creators = 40%

# Capturing Intellectual Property

- Protection and commercialisation of IP depends on early identification and protection of that IP
  - This requires careful monitoring of the progress of research and project outcomes
  - All researchers should
    - review their research activities regularly,
    - keep detailed project and research records and
    - disclose new IP with commercial value to the University
  - **Public disclosure or publication prior to seeking patent protection may dramatically reduce the patentability and commercial value**



# I.P. Disclosure

All staff, honorary appointees, visitors and student creators of Intellectual Property have a duty to disclose inventions with potential commercial value, or where required by a third party agreement.

- What is Invention Disclosure?
  - a process whereby standard IP information is collected to help record and assess I.P. within the University.
- What is disclosed?
  - A brief description of the invention and dates of proposed publication
- Why do we need it?
  - To facilitate the management of I.P.
  - To determine I.P. protection needs
  - For assessment of commercial potential
  - To obtain financial support for patenting
  - Legal compliance with funding conditions
  - To enable the University to meet its reporting obligations

# Submitting an I.P. Disclosure

Themis Login >

IP Disclosure  
Intellectual Property (IP) Disclosure

The screenshot shows the THEMIS IP Disclosure web application. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for Ethics, Grants & Contracts, Schedules, Reporting, Researcher Profile, IP Disclosure (selected), and Publications. Below the navigation bar, the page title is "Intellectual Property (IP) Disclosure" and the sub-header is "Information". The main content area is titled "IP Disclosure (Part A)" and includes a "Save Draft" button, a "Cancel" button, and a "Submit" button. A table lists the disclosure details:

ID	Title	Status	Date Created	Created By
ID-100			01-May-2007	

Below the table, there is a section for "Available Pages" with a list of links: IP Disclosure(Part A), IP Disclosure(Part B), Declaration & HCD Approval, Update Status, Status History, Correspondence Summary, and View Summary. The main form area contains several sections:

- IP Disclosure (Part A)**: A section with a "Title" field and a "Brief Description" field.
- Principal Contact Contributor (PCC)**: A section with a "Full Name" field and a "Position" field. The position field includes sub-fields for Department, Work Phone, and Work Email.
- Public Disclosures**: A section at the bottom of the form.

# Maintaining a Laboratory Notebook

- A well maintained laboratory notebook provides:
  - a complete record of laboratory work which can be understood and repeated by yourself and others
  - a reliable reference for writing up materials and methods and results
  - evidence of compliance with funding or contractual agreements and with regulatory requirements
  - Evidence to establish inventorship ie. who is an inventor?
  - Evidence to establish the date of invention

## Further Information

### **Intellectual Property Statute**

<http://www.unimelb.edu.au/Statutes/s141.html>

### **Intellectual Property Principles**

<http://policy.unimelb.edu.au/UOM0464>

### **Policy on the Management of Research Data and Records**

<http://www.unimelb.edu.au/records/research.html>

### **UoM Commercial Ltd**

[www.commercial.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.commercial.unimelb.edu.au)

UOM COMMERCIAL LTD



Dr Lachlan Wilson  
Intellectual Property Manager  
ph 9035 5231  
email: [lachlanw@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:lachlanw@unimelb.edu.au)  
web: [www.commercial.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.commercial.unimelb.edu.au)



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

UOM COMMERCIAL LTD