

Office of Research

Minutes of the

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PATENTS AND COPYRIGHTS

The Patents and Copyrights Committee met at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2006, in the Deans' Conference Room, Derryberry Hall Room 200, with Dr. Ali Alouani, Chairperson, presiding.

Present

Dr. Mohamed Abdelrahman
Dr. Ali Alouani
Dr. Robert Clougherty
Dr. Glen Johnson
Ms. Nancy Mielke
Dr. Scott Northrup
Dr. Francis Otuonye, Executive Officer
Dr. Jan Turner

Absent

Mr. Michael Baswell
Mr. Robert Cravens
Dr. Shelia Green
Dr. Christine Miller

Also present: Mr. Mark Lynam and Mr. Louis Svendsen.

Dr. Alouani called the meeting to order. The agenda was as follows (see Attachment A):

1. Approval of the agenda.

The agenda was approved as distributed.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the October 11, 2005, meeting.

The minutes of the October 11, 2005, meeting were approved with the following two corrections:

1. Show Dr. Alouani as Chairperson and presiding.
2. List Dr. Subramaniam Deivanayagam as attending for Dr. Glen Johnson.

3. Discussion on revisions to the disclosure forms.

The invention disclosure form prepared by Donna Russell must be prepared in PDF format and compared to the current disclosure form used by TTU. This form contains some different information on the commercial portion of inventions. A copy of the questions asked on the form is attached.

Ms. Russell previously worked for TBR and was at one time invited to help TTU with improvements to the disclosures forms.

4. APVS Continuation-in-part status.

The U.S. Patent Office has sent a notice of payment due for \$700 by February 6, 2006. In the mean time, if TTU wants to file a continuation-in-part this must be filed before February 6. Discussion has been held with Jessica Costa and Lou Svendsen as to whether TTU should file as a continuation-in-part or as a separate patent. The decision thus far has been made to file a continuation-in-part. Dr. Otuonye stated that if there is no market for the invention why would it be advantageous to file for a continuation-in-part or new patent application. If a market develops for it, then TTU would have that in place in order to keep building the technology. Dr. Otuonye stated that when he last spoke with Jessica Costa her feeling was that TTU should go ahead with the continuation-in-part. Dr. Otuonye stated his concern was that the people on the marketing end would find a way to design around the invention that does not include TTU. Mr. Svendsen stated that he is not qualified to make a decision on the technology aspect of the invention. Mr. Svendsen's suggestion was to try to place the invention in the market place and try to get customers. He believes the customer will lean more toward the continuation in part. TTU will still have the patent and can continue to pursue the technology and control anyone else using the technology.

Dr. Otuonye stated the liability for the invention would fall on Tech Works, and that there is no liability on the part of TTU. Dr. Otuonye will contact Jessica Costa about the matter and the best approach to take. Mr. Svendsen will establish a dialogue with Tech Works to determine whether they have ongoing interests in the invention.

5. Discussion on provisional filing for autonomous fire fighting robot.

There are still a couple of prior art articles waiting in interlibrary loans for clearance before sending to this committee to discuss. A follow-up with Sonya Bowman will be made to try expediting the receipt of these articles.

6. Such other matters

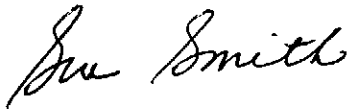
Dr. Otuonye stated that he had received a letter from the Patent Office to pay \$2300 for a patent for an apparatus invented by a TTU professor several years ago. Dr. Johnson stated that this invention was surrounded by accusations of fraud. Dr. Johnson stated the invention is not marketable in an honest way. The inventor will be notified that the fees are due and give the invention back to him and notify him that TTU does not want to market the invention in its present state, provided he can be located.

Motion. Dr. Otuonye moved to return the patent/invention to the inventor. Dr. Johnson seconded. The motion carried.

Discussion ensued regarding the marketing of intellectual property in TTU's portfolio. Dr. Otuonye stated that he does not have anybody in his office to market intellectual property and asked for any recommendations from the committee about such marketing. He has contacted Vanderbilt University but they have been unreceptive. Mr. Svendsen stated that Vanderbilt and ETSU have not had much success with IP's related to their medical schools. However, according to Mr. Svendsen, ETSU has had some success with patenting nutritional products and selling them on the web. Committee members discussed at length the marketing of IP's but no conclusions were reached.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 12:05.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Smith".

Sue Smith, Secretary

**Royalty Sharing on Invention Disclosure: 1411
(Non-Optical Explosive Sensor Based on Two-Track Piezoresistive Microcantilever)**

Gross Royalties Attributable to ERID 1411		
7/28/2005 Sense Holdings*	\$ 3,125.00	
10/3/2005 Sense Holdings*	<u>\$ 15,625.00</u>	
		\$ 18,750.00
Less: 5% Management Fee	\$ 937.50	
Less: All Patenting Costs for ERID1411	<u>\$ 14,302.35</u>	
		<u>\$ 15,239.85</u>
Net Royalties		<u>\$ 3,510.15</u>
25% Sharing to TTU		<u>\$ 877.54</u>

* The Sense Holdings license includes a total of 8 pieces of intellectual property. Royalty income was divided equally among all pieces of intellectual property. The royalty income referenced above for ERID 1411 represents 1/8 of total income received on the Sense Holdings license.