

Office of Research

Minutes of the

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PATENTS AND COPYRIGHTS

The Patents and Copyrights Committee met on Thursday, February 10, 2005, at 11:00 a.m., in the Deans' Conference Room, Derryberry Hall Room 200, with Dr. Mohamed Abdelrahman, Chairperson, presiding.

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mr. Mohamed Abdelrahman	Dr. Douglas Airhart
Dr. Ali Alouani	Mr. Matthew Bauer
Dr. Shelia Green	Dr. Robert
Clougherty	
Dr. Jack Matson	Dr. Glen Johnson
Ms. Nancy Mielke	Dr. Scott Northrup
Dr. Francis Otuonye, Executive Officer	
Dr. Jan Turner	

Others present: Mr. Mark Lynam and Mr. Richard Sheehan.

Dr. Abdelrahman 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 January 18, 2005, meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as distributed.

3. Presentation by Richard Sheehan on Commercialization of Intellectual Property.

Mr. Richard Sheehan made a presentation on his expertise in implementing and executing an organized mechanism to attain successful commercialization of selected technologies in the Tennessee Tech University Intellectual Property Portfolio as follows:

Flexible AC Current Meter using Integrated Magnetic Fields (utility patent to be filed);

Laser Assisted Nano Grinding and Machining (provisional patent filed 4/23/04); and

A compliant, parallel-gravity suspension system for a tracked, climbing robot (provisional patent has been filed).

Mr. Sheehan proposed three basic steps for each technology listed, including evaluation, marketing, and reporting functions. Which will result in a list of “qualified” companies interested in licensing the above named technology items and letters of intent from qualified prospects. Mr. Sheehan outlined the fees for his services. After a lengthy discussion, it was moved by Dr. Alouani that the committee recommends to the President that Mr. Sheehan’s services be retained for the above three patents on a trial basis and continue using his services if results are successful. Dr. Green seconded, and the motion carried.

4. Continued discussion on tabled motion to revise the patent disclosure form.

Mark stated that he has heard back from the Tennessee Board of Regents, and approval has been received for the following disclaimer to be added to the invention disclosure forms: **“The signatories indicate that they understood the invention disclosure as written by the inventors. They do not, however, warrant the novelty, usefulness, patentability, uniqueness, or in any other way endorse this invention.”**

Dr. Matson moved approval that this wording be added to the invention disclosure form. Dr. Turner seconded, and the motion carried.

5. Such other matters.

Dr. Otuonye brought up the discussion on the continuation-in-part invention disclosure related to the Automatic Prescription Verification System utility patent application filed on behalf of Dr. Alouani and the continuation-in-part for the APVS invention filed via an invention disclosure form that listed Dr. Currie, Richard Rhodes, and Mike Renfro as inventors. Dr. Alouani was present and stated that the idea Dr. Currie says is new Dr. Alouani predicted would not work. Dr. Alouani stated that his APVS is 12 ½ percent more accurate than Dr. Currie system. Dr. Currie was not present to present his issues. After considerable discussion, the item was tabled until the next meeting of this committee on March 22, 2005.

6. Adjournment.

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Smith, Secretary