

Office of Research

**Minutes of the
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PATENTS AND COPYRIGHTS
October 9, 2007**

The Advisory Committee on Patents and Copyrights met at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 9, 2007, in the Deans' Conference Room, Derryberry Hall, Room 200, with Dr. Michael Best, Chairperson, presiding.

Present

Dr. Mohamed Abdelrahman
Dr. Ali Alouani
Dr. Michael Best
Dr. Sherrie Foster
Dr. Kim Hanna
Ms. Pat McGee
Mr. Jon Schwenk
Dr. Ken Wiant
Dr. Francis Otuonye, Executive Officer

Absent

Mr. John Boots
Dr. Christine Miller
Dr. Scott Northrup

Others present: Dr. Pedro Arce and Dr. Robby Sanders.

The agenda was as follows:

1. Approval of agenda.

The agenda was approved as distributed, with the addition of one item.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the September 11, 2007, meeting.

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

3. Status of Fire Fighting Robot.

Dr. Otuonye stated that he had talked with Lou Svendsen, and Mr. Svendsen reported that he spoke with David Winters, the attorney who is working on this matter. Dr. Alouani stated that he has heard nothing from Mr. Winters.

Dr. Otuonye also mentioned an email he received from Mr. Mark Lynam stating that if there is a way the committee could consider returning rights back to Dr. Alouani that might want to be pursued. He further stated that the prior art search conducted earlier on this invention and the initial review by

Mr. Winters indicated that the invention's patentability and commercial potential are limited.

Dr. Alouani voiced concern about the time it has taken to get information back from the attorney. Dr. Otuonye pointed out that TTU has to depend on TBR and the attorneys chosen by them. He stated he does not know why it takes them so long to review the options but that TTU can not rush them. Dr. Otuonye stated that he would call Lou Svendsen to see if the process can be expedited and report back at the next meeting of this committee in November.

4. Discussion on invention disclosure form by Dr. Mohamed Abdelrahman and Mr. Michael Baswell for the invention "An Impedance Measurement Device for Non-Destructive Greensand Mold Inspection."

Dr. Abdelrahman stated that this invention disclosure was brought to this committee earlier and that a provisional patent application was filed at that time. The provisional patent has now expired. Dr. Abdelrahman stated earlier the invention was not ready for seeking a full patent application. He stated that the invention has been further tested, and he is now ready to seek a full patent application.

Motion. Dr. Alouani moved approval for a full patent application to be filed. Dr. Foster seconded, and the motion carried.

The matter will now be forwarded to the TBR attorney for advice on marketability of the invention, advisability of seeking a full patent, and the cost thereof.

5. Discussion on invention disclosure by Drs. Holly Stretz, Pedro Arce, and Mr. Jeffrey Thompson for the invention entitled "Nanoparticle-Templated Composite Gels for Separations."

Dr. Arce was present and distributed information and data explaining the invention. He stated that this is a unique invention, and he would like to seek the filing of a provisional patent application as quickly as possible. It was pointed out that research will need to be done to further characterize the mechanisms by which the separation is effected but that the invention was sufficiently developed to begin exploring commercial options.

Motion. It was moved by Dr. Alouani and seconded by Dr. Abdelrahman that a provisional patent application be filed for this invention. The motion carried.

6. Such other matters.

There were no such other matters.

7. Adjournment.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 11:45, all concurring.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Sue Smith, Secretary