

About UTRF

The UTRF Office of Technology Transfer moves inventions from the lab to the market, turns ideas into products, creates new industry partnerships and starts new companies that grow new jobs.

UTRF Launches Drug Discovery Support Program

The UT Research Foundation is pleased to announce the UTRF Drug Discovery Support Program. The goal of the program is to add commercial value to UT technologies by acquiring early stage drugability data (ADME-tox, PK/PD) on small molecules and early development assays for biologics.

In order to receive assay support through the program, an invention disclosure for the technology must be submitted (or have been submitted) to UTRF along with a 1-2 page request. The request should include:

- Compound structure or type of biologic
- Brief overview of biological data: in vitro data and in vivo proof of concept data
- Any ADME-tox studies to date and summary of results

No funds will be distributed to inventors. As such, all scheduling and billing with contract research organizations will be arranged

through UTRF. All data from the contract research organizations will be sent to UTRF and relayed to inventors. Inventors may use the data for publications, presentations and grant proposals. Requests will be evaluated based on the type/stage of the project, input from the principle investigator, and the likelihood of the assays increasing the technology's chances for commercialization.

Examples of small molecule assays that may be requested are: aqueous solubility, CYP inhibition, metabolic stability, CACO-2, hERG patchclamp, iv/oral rat PK, off-target screening. Funds will not be available to pay for the re-synthesis of compounds.

The program is open to requests at anytime throughout the year. For more information or to submit a request, contact Janet Ralbovsky, Ph.D. (jralbovs@uthsc.edu). Complete program guidelines can be found online at <http://utrf.tennessee.edu>.

UTRF Activity

(7/1/12 - 6/30/13)

Disclosures.....	145
U.S. Patents Filed.....	87
U.S. Patents Issued.....	28
Licenses & Options.....	21
Startups.....	4

Upcoming Events

UTRF/ORNL Retreat - August 19, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Oak Ridge, Tenn.

The TENN - statewide Demo Day and Master Mentor program; 9 a.m. (CT), August 27, The Bridge Building, Nashville, Tenn.

Venture Match - Agriculture - 7:30 a.m., August 28, Plant BioTech Bldg, Rooms 156-157.

Venture Match - Software - 5 p.m., September 25, Cherokee Mills, 2220 Sutherland Avenue, Knoxville, Tenn.

Jarett Abramson Joins the University of Tennessee Research Foundation as Senior Staff Attorney

The University of Tennessee Research Foundation (UTRF) has announced that Jarett K. Abramson, J.D., has joined the organization as a senior staff attorney.

"We are very pleased to have attracted not only an attorney with extensive experience in technology licensing, but also one with a strong background in patent prosecution and strategy as well as developing corporate R&D partnerships," said David Washburn, president of UTRF.

Jarett has been working in intellectual property law since 1998. Prior to joining UTRF, he served as senior counsel for Dow AgroSciences in Indianapolis where he worked in intel-

lectual property licensing, commercial and IP litigation, and drafting and prosecuting patent applications.

Before being named senior counsel for Dow AgroSciences in 2008, Jarett was biotechnology patent counsel for The Dow Chemical Company. In this role, he oversaw all intellectual property, commercial matters, and litigation for DowPharma regarding microbial expression systems, diagnostics, virus-like particles, antibodies, enzymes and biocatalysts. Additionally, he led the Dow biofuels business group in all intellectual property and commercial matters and advised the company on pharmaceutical opportunities in regards to government

regulations.

Jarett's primary role within UTRF will be overseeing the execution of formal contractual documents and agreements associated with licensing and other technology transfer, commercialization and economic development activities. He will also provide training to the university research community to keep them informed on applicable policies, practices, and laws related to intellectual property protection, management, and marketing.

Jarett attended graduate school at the University of Utah, receiving both his J.D. and a M.S. in Chemistry and received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

UTRF Maturation Funding Program Renewed for 2013

The University of Tennessee Research Foundation (UTRF) will be announcing a call for submissions for the seventh annual UTRF Maturation Funding program in September. The program helps UT researchers further develop technologies that have potential for commercial success.

Up to \$15,000 in direct costs will be awarded to the highest ranking proposals. Proposals will be due to your Office of Research Administration by close of business October 18, 2013. Watch for the announcement in September with all the details!

UTHSC Office Hiring Technology Transfer Intern

UTRF is seeking a technology transfer intern to work in the UTHSC Office of Technology Transfer. The role of this intern will be to assist the UTRF licensing associates in screening, evaluating, conducting patentability analyses, and performing market research on new technologies

developed at the UT Health Science Center. This is a paid position open to graduate students, professional school students or postdoctoral fellows. For more information, visit

Thank you, Dr. Gourley

UTRF thanks Dr. Dick Gourley for serving as Interim President of UTRF from November of 2011 to May of 2013. Dr. Gourley helped stabilize



UTRF during its most recent transition and led a number of initiatives that will be important in the years to come. He has been instrumental in hiring new licensing associates, establishing our metrics, connecting to the entrepreneurial community and establishing a working budget. In addition, Dr. Gourley drove the creation of the 5 year strategic plan, reinstated the Otto Wheelley Award and helped unify the Knoxville and Memphis operations. We wish him the very best and thank him for all of his service to the UT Research Foundation.

UTRF Welcomes New Class of Interns

UTRF's Knoxville office welcomed its second class of interns in May, hiring UT law students Annie Morgan and Ryan Kemp. Ryan and Annie work closely with the licensing associates, assisting in the evaluation, marketing and licensing of technology developed at the University. They are working full time over the summer but will reduce their hours to 10 hours per week once classes resume. Both Annie and Ryan are entering their third year of law school in UT's College of Law.

Q & A with Annie & Ryan:

Name of your hometown:

Annie: I am originally from Teaneck, NJ but most recently (before starting law school) lived in Atlanta, Georgia.

Ryan: St. Clairsville, Ohio.

How did you choose UT?

Annie: I selected UT because the College of Law offers a high quality legal program at a good value for the tuition dollars.

Ryan: I want to live in the Tennessee region (TN, GA, NC) after I graduate, and I wanted to attend a large school with a storied football program.

How did you become interested in tech transfer?

Annie: I like tech transfer because it presents the opportunity for me to build upon my legal knowledge of intellectual property, while also



UTRF interns Ryan Kemp (left) and Annie Morgan (right) are both third year law students in UT's College of Law.

utilizing skills from my marketing and business background.

Ryan: I have always been interested in science and technology, which underpins my desire to practice intellectual property and patent law. I first became interested in tech transfer after doing a legal externship out at ORNL last semester. I spent a majority of the externship with the IP attorneys and patent agents, I really enjoyed that experience.

So far, what do you feel is the best part of interning with UTRF?

Annie: I've really enjoyed learning about new and innovative technologies. The faculty members at UT are developing novel and useful technology, and it's exciting to be the first to learn about it.

Ryan: Networking and practical

experience.

What do you hope to do after graduation?

Annie: I would like to do corporate transactions work, specifically drafting and negotiating intellectual property licensing agreements.

Ryan: Ultimately my goal is to work as corporate counsel for a company in a science or technology sector. Starting out I hope to find a firm and practice patent and IP law. I would also love to get involved with tech start-ups down the road.

What's your favorite hobby?

Annie: My favorite hobby is watching boxing. In fact, I am also a professional boxing judge.

Ryan: Working out and home-brewing.

UTRF Board of Directors

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