

Protocol on Student Intellectual Property

Introduction

The purpose of this protocol is to provide new students with a brief overview of what is covered in the University IP code (<https://surreynet.surrey.ac.uk/staff-services/technology-transfer/ip-resources>) and how it may affect them. Postgraduate students agree to the terms of the IP Code when they register and so it is important to know how this affects their rights.

Inventions

- Undergraduate Students

Inventions by undergraduate students are owned by the student. Only in certain cases will the University require an undergraduate to assign all their rights in an invention e.g. if it is in a key area of the university's research, or an invention jointly generated with a member of staff or post graduate student.

IP in inventions generated by undergraduate students during a placement may be required to be assigned to a Sponsor of the provider of the placement opportunity. Arrangements for IP ownership will be stated in the agreement between the University and Sponsor.

- Postgraduate Students (MSc/MPhil/PhD etc.)

It is a condition of their registration that post-graduate students are required to agree to assign all rights in Inventions generated from their research to the University. This includes copyright in software and source code. At the request and cost of the University the student(s) will do everything necessary to enable the University to create, complete, assert and defend its Intellectual Property rights in such Inventions (including without limitation in the application for and prosecution and maintenance of appropriate protection, such as patent applications, for such Inventions). This situation is likely to occur if the postgraduate student is working closely with a member of staff on a University key research area. If the research is funded by an external source an agreement will be in place covering IP ownership arrangements with the University which could result in the IP being owned by the external source.

Any Student inventor who assigns their Invention to the University can expect to benefit from a share of revenues in the event that the invention is successfully exploited by the University of the Invention

Cumulative Net Proceeds	Inventor(s)	University
Up to £50,000	70%	30%
More than £50,000 and up to £100,000	50%	50%
More than £100,000 and up to £500,000	40%	60%
More than £500,000	35%	65%

Copyright

Copyright in dissertations and theses shall be owned by the Student. However it is important to note that in certain situations it may be necessary to delay publication if it contains confidential information and/or data that could lead to a patentable invention.

Copyright in Examination scripts and Laboratory notebooks is owned by the University

- Performed Works

Students shall own the performers' rights in any Performed Work. However, the student will give the University a royalty free, non-exclusive licence to use such material for administrative, educational, teaching and research purposes.

- Physical Work

The University shall have a right to acquire ownership, on fair and reasonable terms, of the physical work in any artistic works produced by Students, including without limitation paintings, photographs, sculptures, fabric patterns and multimedia works, but excluding musical scores.

What can Technology Transfer offer you?

Technology transfer offers information on Intellectual Property Rights and advice to those Students who believe they have IP that can be commercially exploited.

- Students who have reasonable grounds for believing that they have generated IP that can be commercially exploited should bring this to the attention of Technology Transfer as soon as practicable.
- Technology Transfer will request that an Invention Disclosure Form (IDF) is completed to enable Technology Transfer to carry out due diligence of the invention. The IDF can be found on the Technology transfer website: <https://surreynet.surrey.ac.uk/staff-services/technology-transfer/process-impact-evaluation>
- The University will decide, normally within 3 months and no later than 6 months from the date of receipt of such notification, whether applications for registered protection are appropriate in the circumstances. Technology Transfer will inform the Students concerned of the decision. The cost of applying for and maintaining patents or other registered rights and the availability of funds for meeting such cost will be considered by Technology Transfer in making that decision.
- Where IP is generated by undergraduate students that is not owned by the University, Technology Transfer will not carry out the due diligence process. However, Technology Transfer will provide the appropriate advice to



undergraduate students on the process of protecting IP together with an estimate of the costs involved in the process.

For any specific questions on IP please contact the IP Officer; Chelsea Brain on chelsea.brain@surrey.ac.uk, ext.2689, or through Technology Transfer enquiries techtransfer@surrey.ac.uk.