

University Senate Research Committee Meeting
7 October 2016
1:00 PM
156 CL

In Attendance: R. Anand, K. Barlow, E. Chasens, K. Cok, R. Melhem, M. Madison, P. Morel, P. Smolinski, L. Terhost, S. Sant, N. Spice, M. Spring, J. Tebbets and F. Wilson

The minutes of the September Committee meeting were approved.

Professor, Michael Madison, School of Law, was introduced.

M. Madison said he was more an expert of copyright law than patent law. He stated that it is his feeling that the University is moving from a more conservative intellectual property policy to a more flexible policy and is becoming more open to corporate interaction. The policy is largely workable. As a result more opportunities for faculty and the University to develop inventions will be created. The IP policy covers federally funded research, which will follow Bayh Dole rules, and corporate contracts. In these cases the University and faculty will be expected to follow disclosure procedures laid out by these rules. An invention that does not fall under these two categories is owned by the inventor and not subject to disclosure unless the inventor wishes to do so.

In regard to conflict of interest (COI) policy he state the Committee is putting a conflict management plan in place. M. Madison said there are changes to the IP policy related to software development that are evolving since software falls both in the copyright and patent domain. Also, also how to share software by open source is being considered.

P. Morel asked how the intellectual property issues of data are being handled. M. Madison responded that this has not been addressed at this time. There is a Data Management Committee being led by Liz Lyons that is evaluating the IP policy related to data. The Committee is working on incorporating data into IP policy. M. Madison believes that data like scholarly work, copyrightable work and research product belong to the researcher.

M. Spring believes that developments in the conflict of interest (COI) policy are moving in the right direction. P. Morel stated the Craig Wilcox, Chair of the COI Committee, will be attending the next meeting and that the draft COI policy will be presented to the research committee by Drs. Redfern, Huber and Wilcox. M. Madison said that the ideal COI policy will be more flexible and involves both policy and practice (procedures).

M. Spring stated that IP policy will have to handle both copyrightable and patentable software.

It was stated that one point in the draft of the University's visitor policy that some faculty disagree with is that visitors must agree to follow the University's IP policy. M. Madison

stated that visitors supported by federal grants or corporate and foundation grants must abide by the terms of the grant agreement. For federal grants the Bayh-Dole Act places some requirements on the handling of intellectual property. M. Madison stated he presumes the University has intentions of dealing with good faith with inventors.

P. Morel stated that the committee had provided feedback on the draft visitor agreement and website and that much of this was negative, especially as regards to the IP and confidentiality clauses. The committee was informed that the agreement is being revised in light of these comments and will be brought more in line with the new IP policy being developed. The Committee should wait for the revised version for further discussions.

M. Madison said that the culture of innovation at the University has been focused on science and medicine and attention needs to be paid to the humanities and social sciences.

There was a general discussion of the new position of Senior Vice-Chancellor for Research.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Patrick Smolinski and Penny Morel