

Introduction to Intellectual Property Protection and University Technology Transfer

NAU *Innovations*, a unit within the Office of the Vice President for Research, manages technology transfer activities at NAU. NAU *Innovations* supports the technical development, legal protection, and commercialization of university-owned intellectual property. Legal protection of intellectual property is pursued both in the U.S. and in foreign countries, and includes patents, copyrights, trademarks and trade secrets. Commercialization activity at the university primarily takes the form of licensing of intellectual property rights to private companies. By transferring technology to the private sector for development into practical applications and products, society benefits from university innovation, and revenue is generated for continued university research. University researchers who create intellectual property are key partners in this process, and are usually deeply engaged in the process of technical development, but they might not be aware of their role in the processes of legal protection and commercialization. This presentation will provide an overview of technology transfer processes at NAU and guidance for university researchers on how to assist in these activities. With an emphasis on the U.S. patent system, discussion will also include an overview of the patent prosecution process, requirements for patentability, and recent court decisions impacting the determination of patent eligible subject matter in biotechnology. Although this presentation is geared toward university researchers, other faculty, staff and students will also benefit from gaining an understanding of intellectual property protection and its importance in all areas of innovation and technology.

Center for Bioengineering Innovation
Lecture Series
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**NORTHERN ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY**

College of Engineering, Forestry & Natural Sciences

Center for Bioengineering Innovation

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Friday, September 18

10-11am

Biology (Bldg 21)

617 S Beaver St

Room 256

Dr. Angela Yamauchi obtained a B.S. in Bioengineering from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Ph.D. in Bioengineering from the University of Utah. After completing her training as a postdoctoral research associate at Los Alamos National Laboratory, she moved on to a position in industry as a product specialist, and later as technologist, at W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc., Medical Products Division, where she provided product management support for commercially marketed medical devices and R&D support for new product development efforts. After becoming a registered patent agent, she worked as a patent search analyst for Cardinal Intellectual Property before coming to NAU to work in technology transfer. She is currently an Intellectual Property Analyst with NAU *Innovations*, assisting university researchers with development and protection of intellectual property generated by their research activities.

