

**STEERING NOVEL BIOTHERAPEUTICS FROM BENCH TO BEDSIDE:
All you ever wanted to know about intellectual property and commercialization
WORKSHOP HOSTED BY NorCOMM2
JUNE 3, 2014**

This case based workshop will introduce participants to the core concepts of intellectual property law and commercialization for novel bio-therapeutics. The workshop is intended to show you how to identify intellectual property in your research and make informed decisions about the use of that intellectual property in the development of research tools and clinical treatments. The case will highlight the balance that intellectual property systems achieve between the rights of inventors and the rights of researchers to use research tools.

The objectives are

1. To introduce you to national and international intellectual property laws, business practices, institutions, and policy discussions related to intellectual property law and commercialization for novel bio-therapeutics.
2. To emphasize the importance of the regulatory and legal environment in technology commercialization, the importance of high quality legal advice to reduce risks, and the social/cultural/legal context of business decision-making.
3. The objective of this teaching case is to discuss the questions posed and, in the process, learn about the commercialization process and intellectual property (IP) management.

The Case Study: Andrew Li is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto. He researches Stargardt-like macular degeneration 3, which is an early onset, autosomal dominant, macular degeneration with high penetrance. The condition is untreatable and causes vision loss. Andrew is developing a novel bio-therapeutic approach for this mono-genic condition that combines gene silencing with gene therapy. Currently, he is working in a mouse model of the disease, developed at the University of Toronto, and his pre-clinical results show potential for a first-in-human clinical trial. He is aware that others working in the field of gene therapy for genetic eye diseases have protected their intellectual property and licensed that intellectual property to start-up companies. Andrew understands that seeking appropriate intellectual property protection is important if he wishes to achieve his goal - to see his innovative technologies used in the clinic, benefiting patients. He is also considering entrepreneurial alternatives to a career in academia. This case study considers what aspects of Andrew's research are eligible for intellectual property protection, how Andrew should evaluate his options and go about seeking intellectual property protection, and strategies for managing any intellectual property, including starting a biotechnology company.

Moderators:

- Dr. Tania Bubela is an Associate Professor and a McCalla Professor in the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta. She combines a PhD in biology with a law degree. She works with international biomedical research collaborations on issues of intellectual property management.
- Katherine Bonter is Director of Intellectual Property for the Montreal Heart Institute, Beaulieu-Saucier Pharmacogenomics Centre. She has many years of experience working in the medical diagnostics and biotechnology sectors in Quebec.

Audience: The workshop is designed for biomedical researchers at all levels. Priority will be given to PhD students and Postdoctoral/Clinical Fellows. The limit will be 40 registered participants.

Requirements: Upon registration, participants will be sent a copy of the case study and a small amount of background reading.

WHEN: June 3, 2014

WHERE: University of Toronto, Woodsworth College, Room 120

Agenda:

- 09:00 – 09:15 Introduction of participants and goals of the workshop.
- 09:15 – 10:30 Introductory lecture and discussion on securing intellectual property protection for novel bio-therapeutics.
- 10:30 – 10:50 Coffee break
- 10:50 – 12:30 Moderated discussion of Case Study questions – Part One – *On Identifying and Seeking Intellectual Property*. This session includes patent search strategies.
- 12:30 – 13:15 LUNCH
- 13:15 – 14:30 Introductory lecture on intellectual property strategy and management
- 14:30 – 14:50 Coffee Break
- 14:50 – 16:15 Moderated discussion of Case Study questions – Part Two – *On Strategically Managing Intellectual Property*
- 16:15 – 16:30 Concluding Remarks and Wrap-Up

COFFEE BREAKS AND LUNCH PROVIDED

COST: NO CHARGE

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.norcomm2.org/workshops

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