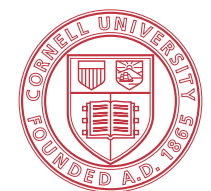# Update on IP and Technology Transfer Practices

Rajit Manohar

.... representing the input of many including:

Robert Buhrman, Lance Collins, Dan Huttenlocher, Alan Paau, Kenneth Birman, Harold Craighead, Dan Luo, Uli Wiesner
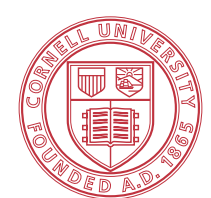
Licensing Practices

Public Domain / Open Source Practices

- Allow researchers to place copyrightable works in the public domain ... *but not work for which patent protection has been sought.*

- Allowed if this does not violate any sponsor agreements/commitments, does not infringe, does not invoke export control issues, and all inventors agree.

- Goal: permit open source software as a vehicle for technology transfer using specific licenses (e.g. BSD).

- A form (and process) modeled after MIT is in development for implementation in late 2012.

Licensing Terms

- Predictable licensing terms for startups, that are appropriate to the area, and stage of development of IP.

- Revised terms in standard research agreements.

- Terms should be agreeable to the VC/commercial community as well as Cornell.

- Much narrower range that is tied to the industry sector as well as technology maturity.

- Goal: speed up upfront negotiations and subsequent licensing process.

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Carve-out Policy

- A researcher will be able to, with College and University approval, "carve out" a specific area of research for commercial activity.
  - ❖ Today, Cornell only disclaims ownership of IP created by its appointees that is in areas clearly differentiated from Cornell work.
  - ❖ If a carve-out process is instituted, Cornell will attest that it will not claim IP ownership on any IP that falls within a "carved out" area of research.
- Expected process
  - ❖ Director/Chair will have written guidelines about process + when carve-outs are likely reasonable.
  - ❖ Researcher suggests a carve-out to Director/Chair. If approved, it is sent to the Dean for review. If approved, it goes to SVPR/VP-TT for final decision.
  - ❖ CCTEC will be asked to comment on existing Cornell IP.
- Caveats
  - ❖ The research that has been carved out cannot be conducted at Cornell even in the future.
  - ❖ Not all areas can be reasonably carved out. The researcher has to be able to continue a robust and well-funded research program at Cornell far into the future.
- Policy is currently going through the University approval/implementation process.

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