ICO Newsletter

Mind Your Conflicts

In August, Stanford updated its conflict of interest policies to incorporate new Public Health Service requirements. The changes are highlighted in the Research Policy Handbook Section 4 (http://rph.stanford.edu/Chpt4.html) and are explained more fully in the Stanford website Managing Conflicts of Interest (http://www.stanford.edu/group/coi/index.html), dedicated to guiding faculty and staff through conflict management.

Before any funds for new grants or competing/non-competing renewals received by Stanford on or after August 22, 2012 can be released for expenditures, faculty who receive NIH or other PHS grants and contracts must complete on-line conflict of interest training. Any new faculty who completed the previous Stanford COI training module over the past year and who have or expect to apply for NIH/PHS funding must repeat the training. The training module can be accessed from (http://www.stanford.edu/group/coi/training/training.html). COI is now implemented in SeRA, and requires faculty clearance before an NOA can be issued.

For more information on COI, contact Barbara Flynn (barbara.flynn@stanford.edu).

Visiting Scholars

While most faculty and grad students or post docs are familiar with Stanford form SU-18, which assigns ownership of intellectual property to Stanford, the related form SU-18A applies to Stanford visitors who engage in research and may have granted conflicting rights to another party. The SU-18A specifies that ownership of inventions and other intellectual property conceived or developed by a visitor (including industry researchers) involved in a research project or making more than incidental use of Stanford facilities is shared between Stanford and the visitor, or the visitor’s employer, as applicable. Visiting Scholars should not be confused with “visiting student researchers,” who are often paid a stipend by Stanford, or “consulting faculty,” who are on campus to teach. More specific information about the SU-18A is at (http://rph.stanford.edu/su18memo.html).

Any faculty member who is considering inviting a visitor should raise the SU-18A terms in advance, with the visitor’s employer if necessary, in order to avoid misunderstandings about intellectual property. The SU-18A, otherwise known as the Patent and Copyright Agreement for Personnel at Stanford Who Have a Prior Existing and Conflicting Intellectual Property Agreement with Another Employer, is available at (http://rph.stanford.edu/su18a.html).

Questions about the SU-18A can be directed to Assistant Dean Ann George (angeo@stanford.edu) or Sally O’Neil in ICO (sally.oneil@stanford.edu).

The End (of the Year) Is Coming!

Researchers anticipating funding from an industrial partner before the end of the year should keep the Stanford winter shutdown in mind. All Stanford administrative offices, including ICO, are closed from December 22nd, 2012 through January 6th, 2013. Normally, the last two weeks before the shutdown are hectic at ICO, and projects can get stalled if not submitted sufficiently early. Also note that Stanford accounts receivable may not be able to issue invoices for agreements signed in the last two weeks before the shutdown.

To be removed from ICO’s mailing list, send an email to ico@stanford.edu

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