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# Tech focus

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS AND PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR A POWERFUL FUTURE

*North Carolina Central University is providing cutting edge research through its institutes that address the research and training needs of underserved minority groups.*

## Taking Research to Another Level

Over the years, North Carolina Central University has worked diligently to build a reputation for cultivating researchers who have a positive impact on the citizens of North Carolina, the country and the world. Today, NCCU is recognized as one of the growing research institutions in fields such as biotechnology, biomanufacturing, homeland security, nursing, information technology and more.

As the momentum continues to build, so does the university's need to protect its intellectual properties. Hence, the

establishment of NCCU's Office of Technology Transfer!

The Office of Technology Transfer, located in the Office of Sponsored Research, is responsible for protecting the intellectual assets of the university. NCCU receives millions of dollars in external research funding from various sources including the federal government. Consequently, the bar has been raised for producing research that clearly impacts society and to yield products with significant commercial potential.



## The Impact of Our Research

The Office of Technology Transfer will support the notion of commercialization by aggressively seeking patent protection and educating faculty and students on the importance of publishing and patenting research results. Stop in and see us anytime. We're located in Suite #227 Alexander Dunn Building; Office of Sponsored Research. Give us a call at 530-7333. We're here to take your research to another level!



# Bayh-Dole Act: Inventions Under Federal Funding

*Perhaps the most inspired piece of legislation to be enacted in America over the past fifty years.*

Prior to 1980, inventions from federally funded research belonged to the funding agency which, in turn, limited patent filing and commercialization. Enacted on December 12, 1980, the Bayh-Dole Act created a uniform patent policy among the many federal agencies that fund research, enabling small businesses and nonprofit organizations,

including universities, to retain title to inventions made under federally-funded research programs.

This unlocked all the inventions and discoveries that had been made in laboratories throughout the United States with the help of taxpayers' money. Major provisions of the Act include:

- Nonprofits, including universities, and small businesses may elect to retain title to innovations developed under federally funded research programs;
- Universities are expected to file patents on inventions they elect to own;
- Universities are expected to give licensing preference to small businesses;
- Universities are encouraged to participate in technology transfer activities.

For more information contact the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA) or the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM)

## PATENT VS. COPYRIGHT



A patent is a grant to the owner of or the assignee of the patent the right to exclude others from making, using or selling the invention for a term of twenty years from the date of the application. A copyright is a form of protection that is provided for under the U.S. Constitution to the authors of an "original work of authorship" that is in a tangible form.



## The Office of Technology Transfer

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