

To: Faculty, Staff and Student Employees

From: Charles G. Riordan
Vice Provost for Research

Thomas LaPenta
Chief Human Resources Officer

Subject: Assignment of Intellectual Property and Compliance with the Bayh-Dole Act

Under the terms of the Bayh-Dole Act, a federal statute, University employees who engage in federally funded research must disclose inventions that have been conceived or first actually reduced to practice in connection with their work at the University. This disclosure must be in writing so that the University can file patent applications on such inventions*. The University's intellectual property policy, Number 6-6, requires the cooperation of the inventors to define and establish rights to the invention and to make an assignment to the University of inventions and discoveries, which are and may be patentable. Most third party funding agreements also require written assignment agreements from individuals engaged in funded research.

The attached "Agreement to Assign" covers any invention that is conceived or reduced to practice in sponsored project activities at the University. Sponsored projects include activities and salaries that are supported in whole or in part by the federal government or by any other internal or external funding source or are conducted in University facilities. You are asked to sign the Agreement as a new employee. Included in this category of employees are full-time faculty, full and part-time professional and salaried staff, postdoctoral and research fellows, graduate students who receive stipend and visiting researchers. Signed forms should be returned to Anna Bloch, Office of Human Resources, 413 Academy Street, Room 268. Should you have additional questions about the University's intellectual property policy or compliance with the Bayh-Dole Act, please contact Sean Hayes at 302-831-7445.

We appreciate your cooperation in assuring that the University of Delaware is in compliance with federal law and regulation.

*Bayh-Dole Act codified at 37 CFR § 401.14