

Technology Transfer: Working with other Faculty collaborators/inventors at multiple universities

Step 1: Each collaborator should reach out to their respective Research/TT Office

Step 2: Collaboratively, determine who will serve as the lead university (typically the location where the primary research took place will serve as lead).

Step 3: The lead institution would then establish an Inter-Institutional Agreement (IIA) and share the IIA with the other universities to review (Within the document, ownership percentages (based on inventor contributions or funding sources) would be agreed upon and all inventors added, as well as cost-sharing and revenue sharing if the patent is licensed or commercialized. Most universities have an IIA that can be modified to fit the parameters).

Step 4: The lead institution will file the patent.

Additional things to consider:

- Public disclosures (papers, presentations) can affect patent rights.
- Funding sources (e.g., federal grants) may require reporting under the Bayh-Dole Act if the invention was federally funded (which is sounds like this was through NSF).
- Employment agreements often stipulate that inventions made in the scope of employment are assigned to the university.