

## **Webinar on ‘Institutional IP Policy and its Role in Industry - Academia Collaborations’**

*Date: Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> October (10.00 am – 11.00 am)*

### *Minutes of the Meeting*

**DST-Centre for Policy Research at Panjab University in collaboration with Technology Transfer Office (i-TTO), Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer Indian Institute of Technology Delhi**, hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> Webinar under Webinar series hosted by the Centre. The theme of the webinar was ‘**Institutional IP policy and its role in industry - Academia Collaborations**’ and the key speaker for the event was **Ms. Reema Sahni, Project Manager, Innovation-Technology Transfer Office**, Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. Ms. Sahni is working as a Project Manager IP and Tech-transfer at Innovation-Technology Transfer office. She is a registered Patent Agent with Indian Patent Office and has experience of more than 8 years in the domain of Intellectual Property. As part of the IP team, she is actively involved in formulating IP strategy of the client’s inventions and advising many SME’S, Startups and Individuals on securing, protecting and enforcing IP rights in India as well as in abroad.

The opening address was presented by **Prof. Nirmala, Coordinator, DST-Centre for Policy Research at Panjab University, Chandigarh**. Prof. Nirmala outlined the activities carried out by the Centre pertaining to reinvigorating Intellectual Property ecosystem in the country along with pressing need of strengthening Industry-Academia collaborations for R&D. She emphasized on need to build robust institutional mechanisms for supporting and promoting institutes especially academic institutes such as universities by designing IP policies catering the needs of both academic and industry especially in case of joint collaboration and technology transfer scenarios. Followed by formal opening address by Prof. Nirmala, Keynote speaker of the webinar Ms. Reema Sahni, delivered her talk on ‘Institutional IP policy and its role in industry - academia collaborations’.

Ms Reema started her presentation by introducing Innovation Technology Transfer Office (i-TTO) established at FITT, IIT Delhi under National Biopharma Mission (BIRAC) to cater to innovation and technological needs of Northern region of India. She deliberated her talk with introducing institutional IP Policy and its relevance and how it can play a major role in stimulating smooth collaborations between industry and academia. The core points discussed by Ms Reema are presented below.

- **What is Institutional IP Policy:** IP Policy is a guiding document for any institute regarding IP protection & commercialization. It comprises of set of procedures for identification, evaluation, protection and management of IP and provides a framework for the ownership and commercialisation of Intellectual Property.
- **Significance of IP Policy:** IP Policy can foster innovation and creativity, laying down fair and transparent process for ownership control, assignment of IP rights, sharing of IP generated revenues, and defining procedures for cooperation with third party thereby, promoting collaborations between academia and industry and drafting own applications without knowing the rules to save money but ending up in losing IP.

- **Symbiotic association of Industry and Academia:** Academia has researchers, new research projects that can give rise to innovative products and Industry needs these resources to grow and compete. Industry and Academia collaboration expedite the availability of innovative technology to the market. In addition, source of revenue for Academic institution & Faculty through technology transfer or other collaboration can be explored through industry-academia ties. For academics, these include career opportunities, research funding, awareness of industry trends. In case of Industry access to extended networks, training, new talent hiring, access to world leading resources. A clear joint vision on future can strengthen the collaboration.
- **Role of IP Policy in facilitating Industry-Academia collaborations:** IPR policy of any academic institution should have clear terms for collaboration between Industry and Academia. There should be no ambiguity in the terms of collaboration. If terms and conditions for industry-academia collaborations are not transparent in the IP policy of Academic institution, issues related to IP ownership and royalty can emerge.

<b>IP Ownership</b>	<b>Royalty</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarity on ownership of IP protects the interest of both the parties.</li> <li>• Academic IP Policy should have clear terms regarding if there will be any collaboration with Industry then Academic Institutions will reserve all the IP rights or both the parties will own joint rights depends upon the type of case.</li> <li>• Before initiation of any collaboration mutual Agreement should be executed among Academia &amp; Industry to avoid any future issue of IP.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terms regarding upfront payment and royalty should be clearly mentioned in the IP Policy.</li> <li>• Sometimes Industries give lump sums of payment and get the royalty-free license</li> <li>• For technology transfer standard terms should be mentioned in the IP policy so that every TT deal can be done according to that.</li> <li>• Proper Agreement should be signed with the Industry for Technology Transfer deal and royalty terms should be mentioned in the Agreement.</li> <li>• Distribution of revenue amongst the Industry and Academia should be according to the IP Policy. ‘If IP policy with all the terms are in place then it can help in mitigation of all the IP, TT and Royalty issues’.</li> </ul>

Therefore, institutional IP Policy should have clear clauses related to:

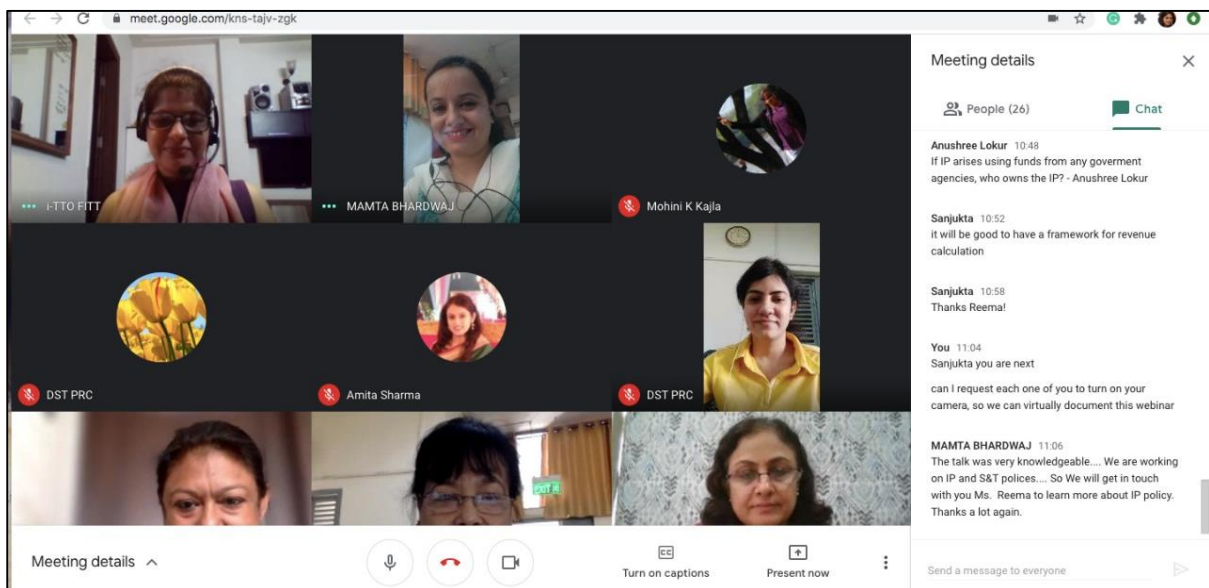
- Ownership
- Handling of confidential information
- Authority to signing agreements
- Sharing concerned information or even materials (prototypes, vectors, formulations without proper agreements)

Ms Reema concluded her talk with need to apprise institutional administrative governance structure to develop robust Institutional IP issues related to ownership, sharing and commercialization of IP especially addressing collaborative research carried out with the industry. She focused on need of regular training sessions or awareness programme for Faculty members, researchers and Students regarding IP policy and that IP policy shall be available to all Faculty members, researchers and students. Faculty members should know about all the terms for Industry-Academia Collaboration right at the beginning of collaborative projects.

Followed by her talk, Ms Reema engaged in discussion session with the audience. The participants posed their questions regarding formulation of IP Policy, key attributes associated with the policy and how revenue model should be clearly defined in any policy for industry-academia projects. Ms Reema had an engaging session with the participants via case study and taking active one to one discussion.

The session was concluded with formal vote of thanks and acknowledgement to **worthy Vice Chancellor Prof. Raj Kumar of Panjab University, Key note speaker Ms Reema and team members of DST-Centre for Policy Research at Panjab University, Chandigarh and Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi.**

### Glimpse of the Webinar






Presented by:



Reema Sahni Mediratta  
Project Manager, i-TTO

**“Institutional IP policy and its role in Industry-Academia Collaborations”**

October 19, 2020






#### CASE STUDY

- Employee of an Industry visited Academic Institution.
- He got engaged in research work in the Academic Institution.
- He created innovative technology with help from Faculty of the Institution and he also used the resources of the Institute.
- Who will own the IP for the innovative technology Industry or Institution and why?




**DST-Centre for Policy Research at Panjab University,  
Chandigarh**

in collaboration with

**Innovation-Technology Transfer Office, FITT  
invites you all for a one hour webinar on**

**'INSTITUTIONAL IP POLICY AND ITS ROLE IN  
INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA COLLABORATIONS'**

Meeting Link: <https://meet.google.com/kns-tajv-zgk>

October 19th, 2020 at 10am

For queries related to webinar write to us at

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