



Intellectual Property – think you have it?

THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW ideas, designs, and creative solutions are at the heart of all research and development. As BCIT's research capacity grows, new innovations will create opportunities to commercialize the resulting Intellectual Property (IP). However, researchers often have difficulty identifying and determining the value of their IP.

In addition, many unwittingly compromise, or even give away, their IP without realizing.

For instance, did you know that:

If you show your novel concept to people outside BCIT, and they haven't signed a non-disclosure agreement, you will lose the ability to obtain a patent outside North America?

If you publish information about your invention in an *Update* article or demonstrate

it at a trade show, and haven't filed at least a provisional patent application, you will lose the ability to obtain a patent outside North America?

Intellectual property contracts are complex – a clause or statement that seems reasonable can have unanticipated effects, including losing the rights to your invention.

As with any other property, you can sell or license your IP to a third party, however, in order to use IP in this way, it must be adequately protected by patent, copyright or trade secret.

If you disclose your invention to BCIT's Technology Commercialization Office and a provisional or full patent application is filed, you can show others your invention without worry.

BCIT's Technology Commercialization Office (TCO) offers a variety of services designed to help researchers protect and commercialize their intellectual property. A team of experts is available to assist in evaluating IP possibilities, writing non-disclosure agreements, negotiating industry contracts and licences, filing patents, and navigating administrative processes. If you have a question, an idea worth protecting, or need help with a commercialization project contact Matt Mintz, director, BCIT Technology Commercialization Office, ph: 604-451-7011, e-mail: Matthew_Mintz@bcit.ca.

BCIT's draft IP principles have been posted on All Notes for your feedback. Forward your comments to Jim Reichert, vice-president, Research and International, by Oct. 22, 2005.

BIG Info a big success

NEARLY 950 VISITORS explored their career path at the annual Big Info Session and Program Expo, held on Oct. 12 at BCIT's Burnaby campus.

The Marketing and Communications department and Student Services collaborated on new initiatives to meet the evolving needs of prospective students, staff

and faculty. A few initiatives included the screening of the new recruitment videos at the Welcome Sessions, increased multimedia integration at School booths and the development of the "Top 10 Things You Need to Know about Big Info" sheet. The "Top 10" is a resource developed specifically for staff and faculty which provides answers to visitors' most frequently asked questions.

Another innovation was the introduction of smaller tables at booths, resulting in increased interactivity with prospects, better logistical flow and movement, and allowed exhibitors more creativity with their booth space and set-up.

A big thank-you to everyone who helped make the event a success. For marketing info, contact Denise Gorgosilich at 604-412-7473; for logistics, contact Tammy Yackimec at 604-432-8306.



Nearly 950 prospective students visited BIG Info.

United Way needs your generosity

THIS FALL, THE 2005 UNITED WAY campaign was kicked off with a travelling road show that brought the United Way message to BCIT's Lower Mainland campuses.

BCIT employees are encouraged to support this worthy fundraising drive by participating in any of the many events taking place over the next few weeks. These events help bring attention to the more than 400 United Way agencies and services throughout the Lower Mainland that provide much-needed, year-round support to those in need. Watch for announcements on more activities as the campaign progresses.

Bake sale, Oct. 31, BCIT Library

Book sale, Oct. 31 – Nov. 4, BCIT Library

Pancake breakfast, Nov. 3, 7 a.m., Carpentry building, NE4

Online BINGO (guaranteed two games for the duration of the campaign)

Until Nov. 18, the campaign features the United Way@work online system whose website offers a wealth of information regarding the United Way. The site also provides a confidential and convenient way for you to make a contribution. With a payroll deduction, you can spread your donation over an entire year. Traditional pledge cards are also available for those who prefer that method of giving.

If you have any questions, ask the designated canvasser in your or contact Employee Campaign coordinator, Ken Zaiser at 604-432-8659.