

## 2023 Workshop Series

### STAR Workshop - Researcher's Guide to Industry Partnerships

#### CASE STUDY

A researcher is interested in working with a company in the healthcare industry based out of the United States. She has engaged in some promising preliminary conversations with a researcher at the company she met at a conference, and the partnership appears to be one that would be very successful for both the company and the researcher's lab.

- 1) What are some of the resources available at the University to assist the researcher with starting this partnership?
- 2) The company is requesting the researcher sign an CDA before they share any confidential information with the University. What are the next steps for the researcher?
- 3) What University policies and/or guidelines should be considered prior to formalizing the partnership and while conducting the research?

#### SOLUTION

- 1) What are some of the resources available at the University to assist the researcher with starting this partnership?
  - [Researcher's Guide to Industry Partnerships](#)
  - Divisions and Departments across the university may have business development professionals and other roles to support the creation of new research engagements, in addition to the [Innovations & Partnerships Office](#), [Office of the Vice-President International](#) and [Institutional Strategic Initiatives](#)
  - Business Officers/CAOs within Divisions and Departments can help develop a project budget, i.e. providing student salary rates
  - The [Centre for Research and Innovation Support \(CRIS\)](#), which is a researcher-centric resource hub offering tools and training
  - [Research Alerts](#) and [Research Funding Opportunities](#) databases
  - [Inventor's Guide to Technology Transfer](#)
  - VPRI Entrepreneurship's [IP Education Program](#)

- 2) The company is requesting the researcher sign an CDA before they share any confidential information with the University. What are the next steps for the researcher?
- As discussions regarding a potential research project become more detailed, some partners may require a non-disclosure or confidential disclosure agreement (CDA). Similarly, if the university researcher is disclosing any unpublished, proprietary, or confidential information, a CDA should be requested by the researcher. The researcher must submit a request for a CDA through the My Research Non-Funded (MRNF) portal within the My Research Applications and Agreements (MRA) system. When a researcher logs into the MRA system, there is a tab specifically for non-funded agreements to be submitted. Non-funded research agreements need to be reviewed and executed at IPO. The file will be assigned to a member of the partnerships team, who will discuss the agreement with the PI and ensure the terms are compliant with U of T policies.
- 3) What University policies and/or guidelines should be considered prior to formalizing the partnership and while conducting the research?
- [Statement of Research Partnerships](#)
  - [Research Administration Policy & Guidelines](#)
  - [Inventions Policy](#)
  - [Publication Policy](#)
  - [Policy on Conflict of Interest - Academic Staff](#)
  - [Policy on Ethical Conduct in Research](#)
  - [Policy on Research Involving Human Subjects](#)
  - [National Security Guidelines for Research Partnerships](#)
  - U of T [guidance documents on](#) international partnerships