June 24, 2021

Shane White  
Chair, UCLA Academic Senate  

Re: UCLA Policy 956 – Your letter dates June 8 2021

Dear Dr. White,

We wish to thank the Academic Senate Executive Board endorsement of the proposed policy.

Your letter raises good points, below please find our explanations and answers.

1. The university contribution will be calculated on a case-by-case basis from information that will be collected from OCGA, TDG, department and school, e.g:
   
   \begin{align*}
   (X): & \quad \text{Federal Funding} \, $300,000 \\
   & \quad \text{Unreimbursed F&A} \, $50,000 \\
   & \quad \text{Gifts} \, $150,000 \\
   & \quad \text{Department support} \, $100,000
   \end{align*}

   \begin{align*}
   (Y): & \quad \text{Royalty Sharing Award} \, $200,000 \\
   (Z) = 20% \\
   & \quad \text{Sponsor Share shall be} = 20\% (200000/600000) = 0.066 \, (6.6\% \, \text{from net revenue}).
   \end{align*}

2. It is unlikely that university owned IP will arise with little or no university support. In such rare and unlikely event section 6 of the draft policy shall prevail and the university share shall not be less than 50% of net revenue.

3. ORCA will endeavor to allow as many awards as possible to move forward. Some examples we have seen to date that are likely to be declined include:
   a. A sponsor asking for a significant revenue sharing from future and existing IP, without paying any F&A while providing a small research support.
   b. Multiple revenue sharing obligations on a single patent, leaving the university without a return or potentially with a negative return.

Since this is a new policy best practices and criteria will be developed overtime on a case-by-case basis. The landscape of revenue sharing is changing rapidly. Therefore, we cannot establish a rigid criterion for granting exceptions. Decisions will be made after consultation with impacted faculty, schools, and relevant administrative units.
4. Currently revenue sharing negotiations are performed by OCGA/TDG staff with little guidance and without the involvement of schools and my office. The new policy and process is a significant step towards transparency as compared to our current practice and will include continued dialog with faculty, schools, colleges and administrative units. Once certain template terms are finalized with a given foundation, these terms will become available to all faculty members. We encourage faculty to consult OCGA staff before submitting a proposal to a foundation that might be subject to this policy.

5. In every invention disclosure inventors are asked to state the sources of funding they used in making the invention. This information is recorded in TDG’s database and is easily retrievable.

Unless I hear from you to the contrary until July 15, 2021 we will continue with the codification of this policy.

Sincerely,

Roger M. Wakimoto
Vice Chancellor for Research and Creative Activities