

## IPR & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER POLICY GUIDELINES

### PREAMBLE:

The CMR College of Engineering & Technology (CMRCET) has developed an **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Technology Transfer (TT) Policy** to promote innovation, research, and commercialization of intellectual property created by its faculty and students. This policy outlines ownership, commercialization strategies, technology transfer and confidentiality requirements related to inventions, designs, copyrights and other creative outputs.

It serves as a guideline to foster both curiosity-driven and market-driven research, enabling CMRCET to excel as a center for teaching, research, and innovation. The policy encourages a conducive IP environment, supports inventors, and ensures efficient management of IP assets. The document, along with operational guidelines and annexures, provides comprehensive insights into IP management at CMRCET, while remaining flexible to adapt to evolving national IPR policies.

### THE PURPOSE OF IPR & TT POLICY:

1. Promote scientific inquiry, research, and academic freedom.
2. Foster an innovative culture for IP creation and development.
3. Define rights, responsibilities and protect the interests of faculty, staff, students and the Institute.
4. Establish guidelines to convert knowledge into wealth.
5. Maximize societal benefits from IP through dissemination and commercialization.
6. Facilitate technology transfer and licensing to industry partners for effective commercialization.

### THE OBJECTIVES OF IPR & TT POLICY ARE TO:

1. Facilitate innovation, protection and commercialization of intellectual properties to generate wealth and improve human life.
2. Promote IPR awareness and a culture of innovation within the Institute.
3. Establish a Technology Transfer Office for effective technology transfer.
4. Provide a single-window system for all IPR-related matters.
5. Create an environment that fosters research, innovation, and knowledge generation aligned with the Institute's educational mission.

### SCOPE:

This policy applies to all intellectual property (IP) generated by faculty, students, research scholars, project employees and visiting professionals involved in teaching or research at the Institute, whether full-time or part-time. It covers patents, designs, copyrights, know-how, and undisclosed information arising from academic research.

### POLICY STATEMENT:

The Institute is committed to promoting, protecting, and commercializing intellectual property while upholding its core objectives of teaching, research, and societal benefit. It supports IP commercialization as a revenue source and to benefit staff and students, while respecting traditional academic values.



27/12/2023

## OWNERSHIP OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:

In all the IP applications ( Patents, Copyrights, and Design ) filed by the Institute for the ownership of intellectual property rights, the persons who have directly contributed intellectual inputs shall be mentioned as inventors or creators

## COPYRIGHTS:

- The Institute owns copyrights for teaching materials developed by employees for academic activities, but authors can use them professionally.
- Faculty retain copyright for books, articles, and other works created for research and teaching.
- The Institute may claim copyright for works created with significant use of its resources, including software.
- Non-Institute personnel's works may belong to the Institute, depending on the contribution.
- Copyright ownership in sponsored or collaborative projects is determined by contract terms.
- In student thesis or project reports, copyright is jointly held with the guide, but the Institute may request full assignment for non-commercial use.
- Works-for-hire typically belong to the Institute unless stated otherwise.
- The Institute may file and protect copyrights and share financial returns with creators under agreed terms.

## INSTITUTE- SUPPORTED RESEARCH:

All rights in respect of the intellectual property generated out of investigations carried out at the Institute making use of the Institute's resources shall vest in and be the absolute property of the Institute except in cases where such investigations are carried out either jointly with other institutions and agencies or under sponsorship by an outside agency.

## SPONSORED RESEARCH AND IP OWNERSHIP:

- **Fully Funded Projects:** IP from research funded entirely by a sponsoring agency is jointly owned by the Institute and the agency if both share the cost of securing and maintaining IP. If the agency does not support joint registration, the Institute may file for ownership and cover all costs.
- **Partially Funded Projects:** For partial funding or multiple sponsors, IP sharing is decided through mutual agreements.
- **Industry Sponsors:**
  - **Option 1:** The industry owns the IP, paying the Institute a lump sum and annual royalties for a specified period. If the industry does not exploit exclusive rights within a set time, the Institute may allow third-party exploitation.
  - **Option 2:** The Institute owns the IP, but the industry has exploitation rights (exclusive or non-exclusive) in return for payments to the Institute. If the industry fails to exploit exclusive rights within a set time, third-party exploitation may be permitted, and the Institute retains user rights for further research.

## JOINT RESEARCH AND IP OWNERSHIP:

When IP results from joint research between Institute personnel and external collaborators, the IP is jointly owned. The cost of filing and maintaining the IP, as well as revenue from its commercialization, will be shared according to an agreed formula. If collaborators do not agree to share costs, the Institute may file and maintain the IP at its discretion, with the Institute deciding on the revenue sharing from commercialization.



27/12/2023

## TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER:

1. The Institute will take necessary steps to commercialize its IP, either solely or jointly, through technology transfer, licensing (exclusive or non-exclusive), and revenue-sharing agreements.
2. The Institute will identify potential licensees for IP it fully owns and offer the first right to commercialize joint IP. Licensing may involve a lump sum payment and royalties for a specified period. If the collaborator declines, the Institute will proceed with commercialization.
3. If a collaborator does not commercialize the IP within two years, the Institute can license the IP to a third party.
4. To promote entrepreneurship, the Institute may transfer IP ownership to inventors or creators who wish to commercialize it independently, with the Institute receiving a share of patenting, licensing expenses, and royalties or other value generated.

## REVENUE SHARING:

The revenue accruing out of the commercial exploitation of IP (i.e. the technology transfer fee and subsequent royalty payments) would be shared appropriately between the inventor(s), the Institute and the Mentor (Head of the Institute, HOD-CEER and Faculty Guide). Currently this ratio is 60:40. **In this 60%, The Institute will have a share of 45%, Head of the Institute will have a share of 2.5%, HOD-CEER will have a share of 2.5%, and the Mentor will have a share of 10%. The Student Innovator will have remaining share of 40%. If there is no faculty guide involved in the innovation, that 10% revenue would be shared to the Institute only.** Where the Institute reassigns the right to IP to its inventor(s)/creator(s), he/she/they shall reimburse all the costs incurred by the Institute, which include protection, maintenance, marketing and other associated costs.

## INFRINGEMENTS, DAMAGES, LIABILITY, AND INSURANCE:

The Institute seeks indemnity from legal proceedings in contracts with licensees, including issues like manufacturing defects. The Institute has the right to decide whether to engage in litigation concerning patent and license infringements.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Inventors must disclose any potential conflict of interest if they or their family have a stake in a licensee company. Any license or assignment to such a company requires approval from the IPR&TT Cell.

## DISPUTE RESOLUTION:

In case of disputes, the aggrieved party can appeal to the Director, whose decision is final.

## APPLICATION OF POLICY:

This policy applies to all Institute employees and students and may be amended as necessary. All creators involved in sponsored research must comply with the policy unless an exception is granted in writing.

## RIGHT TO REGULATE POLICY:

The IPR&TT Cell oversees the interpretation and application of the policy and can recommend changes, subject to the Chancellor's approval.

## LEGAL JURISDICTION:

All agreements and disputes will be governed by Indian laws and the legal jurisdiction of the Court at Hyderabad.



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