

University of Rijeka



**Intellectual Property Management Policy
of the University of Rijeka**

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1. BACKGROUND

This policy provides guidelines for the intellectual property management of the University of Rijeka for all the staff (academic and administrative) and students (undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate), and with the aim of disclosing, identifying and protecting, as well as commercializing, the intellectual property.

The strategic orientation of the University of Rijeka is to be a research University, which is clearly stated in the vision of the Development Strategy of the University of Rijeka 2007-2013:

„The University of Rijeka shall be a research University with a clear research profile directed towards sustainable development, and it shall implement a high quality and efficient education based on the learning outcome and life-long education. With an active collaboration with the economy, with partnerships for the development of the community, with the inclusion into the European Research Area and the European Higher Education Area, with the highest level of organisation and responsibility, the University of Rijeka shall demonstrate its public responsibility and contribute to the socio-cultural transition towards a Knowledge Society. The University of Rijeka shall be a dynamic University that systematically and in an organized manner promotes mobility and the development of research careers and enables the expression of talents and of the entrepreneurial energy of every single individual (professor, assistant, administrator and student).“

Likewise, the same is stated in the strategic aim 3 of the Development Strategy of the University of Rijeka 2007-2013:

„Research University with a defined research profile, centres of excellence, collaborative researches, institutional care for the development of research careers and a double scientific production.“

The strategic guidelines of the University clearly show a stronger orientation of the University towards the research and the establishment of a position as a research University and its close connection with the economy with the aim of commercializing the knowledge produced at the University. This inevitably imposes the need to safeguard and protect the intellectual property.

2. AIMS OF THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT POLICY

The general aim is to create a framework to incite research work (basic and applied) at the University and all its constituents, as well as to justly apportion the rights over the created intellectual property, to reward the innovativeness of institutions and individuals and to encourage a wider participation of private and public organisations in joint projects with the University and its constituents, on the regional, national and international level.

The specific aims are:

- Support the work of the Technology Transfer Office;
- Through the University's PR promote research and innovativeness;
- Create a support network for the researchers to ensure the protection of intellectual property;
- Through the existing support institutions (STP and TTO) enable for the innovative projects an unhindered development up to the commercialization phase as well as the protection of the intellectual property through patents or licences.

3. INNOVATION AND RESEARCH POTENTIALS

The recommendations of the Development Strategy of the University of Rijeka 2007-2013 clearly state the need to incite and create conditions for the evaluation of inter-disciplinary research and the need to connect the University with the economy and the local self-government. The University proves its orientation with the construction of the University campus of Trsat with which it shall satisfy the standard of the most modern universities and create preconditions, with the building and equipment of laboratories, for the research work.

Moreover, the University has created support institution and structures within the University to facilitate the commercialization of the research results. The Scientific-technological Park in Rijeka is an incubator of newly formed and knowledge based companies. The Technology Transfer Office of the University of Rijeka discloses, protects and commercializes the intellectual property created at the University.

With a synergistic activity of the support institutions and structures, with a strong promotion of the University as a research centre and the orientation of all the staff towards these aims, a framework has been created for a significant connection of the economy and the University and a joint growth and development of the society we live and work in.

4. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Within this policy, the term **intellectual property** comprises all intellectual products created as a result of research, of scientific, expert and any other activity within the University or any of its constituents, in which the means of the University or its constituents have been used (equipment, services, funds, time, etc.), including especially those products created during the work or connected with the work at the University or its constituents.

5. DISCLOSING, PROTECTING AND COMMERCIALIZING THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The University advocates for the disclosure, protection and commercialization of intellectual property (IP) at the University and all its constituents. All expert and administrative staff of the University and its constituents must upon the creation of an intellectual product, via the head of the constituent, inform the Technology Transfer Office (hereinafter TTO) of the University of the creation of such a product via a standardised form of disclosure of intellectual property of the University of Rijeka.

All inventions must be treated in accordance with national and international regulations concerning intellectual property and its possible protection. Every publication and public release of the development results prior the formal registration of the patent or author's rights, might unable the protection of the concerned intellectual property. Considering the complexity of the protection process, all persons included in the creation of the intellectual property must be stimulated to disclose as soon as possible their results to the TTO, so as to enable it to undertake all the necessary precautionary measures in safekeeping the intellectual property protection rights.

The commercialisation of intellectual property can be implemented through the licencing of the intellectual property or by opening a new company depending on the type and characteristics of the intellectual property. The University shall via the TTO, for every disclosed product for which on the basis of objective indicators establishes the existence of a commercial potential, offer the support in the commercialization of the intellectual property.

6. KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

- Establishment of a functional organisation with responsible persons (TTO);
- Establishment of measurement and surveillance systems for the implementation of the policy;
- Creation and management of an intellectual property and competency data base of the University and its constituents;
- Development of necessary skills and knowledge at the University and its constituents related to intellectual property;
- Stimulation of continuous cooperation and research within the University and its constituents, and support institutions, as well as their cooperation with the economy on the regional, national and international level;
- Regular monitoring of achieved aims and information of the public to that regard.