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## University Patent License Valuation – Measuring Value

The formal presentation will begin at Noon Eastern

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## University Patent License Valuation – Measuring Value

### Speakers:

John M. Christie, *Tulane University*  
Ashley J. Stevens, CLP, *The Focus IP Group*

November 10, 2016



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# Questions?

We will be taking questions at the conclusion of the presentation.



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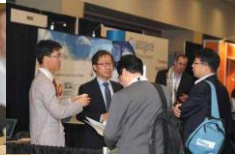
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- AUTM Technology Transfer Practice Manual
- AUTM Licensing Activity Survey (currently for United States and Canada)
- AUTM Update

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## University Patent License Valuation

(Webinar -- Intermediate Level)

## Course Outline:

1. Creating Value      Oct 27, 2016
2. Measuring Value    Today!
3. Sharing Value
4. Special Issues for startups

# Measuring Value

## Faculty



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The Focus IP Group  
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# Overview

- Why do academic institutions engage in technology transfer?
- How should licensor and licensee share financial success?
- Basic finance:
  - License terms
  - Financial accounting
  - Financial statements
- Cash flow from a successful license
- Net present value



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# Why do academic institutions engage in technology transfer?

- To see that research results are made tangible, so that they can have a positive impact on the world
- To deliver a benefit to the public, whose taxes have often directly supported the research



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Where does the money come in?

or

If the goal is so noble, why not give technology away?

- It's not so simple:
  - Government wants academics to receive fair market value:
    - Tax implications, especially for the tax-exempt
    - Bayh-Dole purposes
- And any proceeds can be put to good use:
  - Supporting further research (and commercialization)
  - Supporting the research institution
  - Rewarding (motivating) inventors and discoverers



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Where does the money come in?

or

If the goal is so noble, why not give technology away?

- Some technologies have long and expensive development processes and complex regulatory pathways
  - Investors need market exclusivity
- Patents (and other forms of IP protection) provide exclusivity
- Resource-constrained research institutions need incentives to invest in securing IP protection



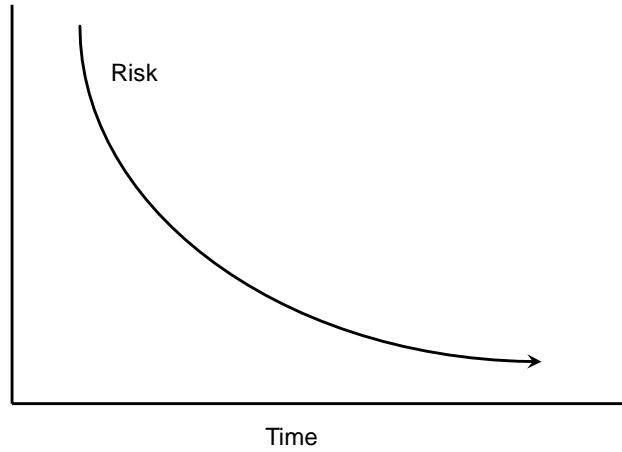
## How should the licensor and licensee share the profits?

- In technology licensing, we often rely on the 25% Rule:
  - The licensor should receive 25% and the licensee 75% of the pre-tax profit from the commercialization of a licensed IP
- Reflects the risk / reward relationship going forward
  - Licensor's risk is over
  - Licensee's is just beginning
- It may not be perfect, but it's an excellent starting point
  - Based on real world experience
  - Stood the test of time for 60 years
    - Except in litigation

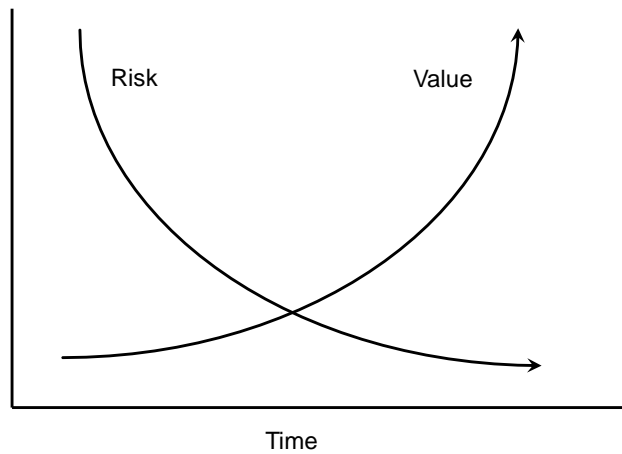
## Some Fundamental Principles of License Valuation

- We very rarely get paid in full upfront
  - Academic technologies are generally very high risk
    - Technology unvalidated
    - Market unvalidated
- Risk and value are inversely related

## Value vs. Risk



## Value vs. Risk



## Some Fundamental Principles of License Valuation

- We probably shouldn't even **TRY** to get paid upfront in full
- Our job is to **EXTRACT** the value over time
  - Share in the growth in value

## Royalties vs. Running Royalties

- Royalties are the totality of payments a licensor receives in return for granting a license to its IP:
  - Upfront fees, including equity;
  - Annual minimum royalties / license maintenance fees;
  - Milestone payments;
  - Running royalties.
- Excludes payments reimbursing for a deliverable:
  - Patent prosecution;
  - R&D;
  - Product manufacture.
- Running royalties are payments received by the licensor that are proportionate to the extent of the licensee's use of the IP.

## Royalty Payments

- Three basic types of payment:
  - Fixed lump sum payments
    - Single payments we get as long as the license is in effect
      - Upfront fee, Annual maintenance fee, Annual minimum royalties
  - Contingent lump sum payments
    - Single payments we get if certain things happen
      - Patent milestones, Development milestones, Sales milestones, Equity liquidation
  - Running royalties
    - Payments that depend on the extent of licensee's use of the licensed technology
  - Some payments are made pre-commercialization, some after

## Running Royalties

- Aka “Earned Royalties”
- The main post-commercialization economic component of the license
- Biggest long term impact if the product is successful
- An equation:
 
$$\text{Royalty payments} = \text{Royalty base} * \text{Royalty rate}$$
- Payments are made for the Royalty Term

## Royalty Base

- Measure of the **extent** of licensee's return from using the technology
  - Number of units sold
  - Revenues
  - Profits
    - Define carefully
      - Gross Profits / Net Profits / Profits after taxes
    - Very difficult to audit
- Most common is "Net Sales"
  - Gross Sales less either
    - Standard deductions
      - » Shipping / Insurance / Returns
    - Or a standard deduction – typically 5%

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## Royalty Rate

- **How much** of the licensee's return from using the technology we get
- Royalty rate can be either:
  - Flat
    - Single royalty rate for all sales
  - Tiered
    - Royalty rate is different at different levels of sales
    - Basic marketing theory says that bigger selling products are more profitable
      - Basic royalty theory (25% Rule) says royalty rate should therefore increase at higher sales levels

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## Royalty Term

- How long we get paid
- Universities usually use:
  - Last to expire patent on a country-by-country basis
- Companies frequently use:
  - Longer of:
    - Last to expire patent on a country-by-country basis; or
    - Ten years from first commercial sale on a country-by-country basis
- Why don't more universities use this formulation?
  - Particularly on a "reach through" product
    - A product that is **discovered** using the licensed technology

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## Basic financial accounting

**Revenue:** Money received in exchange for its products, services, sale of assets etc.

- The "Gross Sales" figure from which allowable costs are subtracted to get "Net Sales"

**Cost of Goods Sold:** Direct costs of making the goods sold

- Cost of materials, direct labor, royalties paid

**Gross Margin:** Revenue minus COGS as a percentage

All definitions adapted from <http://www.investopedia.com/> and used here purely for purposes of education.

## Basic financial accounting

**Net Margin:** Gross Margin less Indirect Costs

- R&D, Marketing and Sales, General and Administrative
- Shows how profitable a company is

**Discounted Cash Flow:** (DCF) A valuation method used to evaluate an investment opportunity.

- Projects future free cash flow
- Discounts them to arrive at a present value estimate.

**Time Value of Money:** The idea that money available at the present time is worth more than the same amount in the future

- Core principle of finance
- Money is worth more the sooner it is received.

## A Company's Principal Financial Statements

- Income Statement
  - Flow of Activity Over a Time Period
  - “For the \_\_\_\_\_ Ended...”
- Balance Sheet
  - Snapshot at a Particular Time
  - “As of \_\_/\_\_/\_\_”
- Cash Flow Statement
  - Simply a Restatement of the Balance Sheet
    - To Reflect Changes (Flows) Over Time
    - “For the \_\_\_\_\_ Ended...”



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# Income Statement

- *aka* P&L Statement, Operating Statement
- Reflects revenue sources & expenses
- Single line for revenues
- Expenses are typically grouped by function
  - COGS
  - Sales & Marketing
  - G&A
- Various subtotals reflecting various measures of profitability
  - Gross Profit
  - Operating Profit
  - Profit before Interest and Taxes
  - Net Profit



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# Income Statement

Income Statement:		
For the Year Ended Dec 31:		
	2005	2004
Sales	810,000	775,000
COGS:		
Material	162,000	150,000
Direct Labor and Overhead	202,500	187,500
Total COGS	364,500	337,500
<b>Gross Margin</b>	<b>445,500</b>	<b>437,500</b>
Product Development	100,000	92,000
Sales & Marketing	156,000	145,000
General & Administration	70,000	65,000
Total Operating Expenses	<b>326,000</b>	<b>302,000</b>
<b>(EBIT) Operating Profit</b>	<b>119,500</b>	<b>135,500</b>
Interest Expense	660	850
Pretax Income	118,840	134,650
Tax Provision	47,536	53,860
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>71,304</b>	<b>80,790</b>



## Balance Sheet

- Reflects financial health of company
- Snapshot in time
- Changes over time reveal a lot
- Two halves
  - What's owned – Assets
  - What's owed – Liabilities
- They must equal each other
  - Balancing item is "Equity"
    - The Net Worth of the business

## Assets

- Assets reflect cash and future claims to cash
  - In descending order of when we expect cash
  - Two groups
    - Current Assets – Convertible to cash in less than 12 months
    - Other Assets – Relatively illiquid

## Assets

- Current Assets
  - Cash and Cash Equivalents
  - Accounts Receivable
  - Inventory
  - Notes Receivable
- Other Assets
  - Gross Fixed Assets
  - Accumulated Depreciation
  - Other Operating Assets
  - Other Investment
  - Goodwill

## Liabilities

- Liabilities reflect future claims on cash
  - In descending order of when we expect to pay
  - Three groups
    - Current Liabilities – Payable in less than 12 months
    - Long Term Liabilities -- Payable in more than 12 months
    - Equity
      - Not repayable
      - Owned by shareholders



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### Liabilities

- Current Liabilities – Payable in less than 12 months
  - Accounts Payable
  - Taxes Payable
  - Other Liabilities
    - Deposits, Employee vacations, etc.
- Long Term Liabilities -- Payable in more than 12 months
  - Debt
- Equity – Not repayable
  - Common Stock
  - Paid in Capital
  - Retained Earnings



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### Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet - As of December 31					
	2005	2004		2005	2004
<b>Assets</b>			<b>Liabilities &amp; Equity:</b>		
Cash	25,792	2,699	Notes Payable	5,000	2,500
Accounts Receivable	342,005	322,266	Accounts Payable	42,300	40,283
Inventory	425,505	378,545	Accrued Expenses	47,850	48,200
Other Current Assets	20,000	20,000	Accrued Taxes	<u>48,500</u>	<u>46,896</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>813,302</b>	<b>723,510</b>	<b>Total Current Liab.</b>	<b>143,650</b>	<b>137,880</b>
Fixed Assets	375,500	355,100	LTD	278,500	325,005
Acc Depreciation	(95,000)	(60,000)			
Net Fixed Assets	280,500	295,100	<b>Shareholders Equity</b>		
			Capital Stock	20,000	20,000
			Paid-in-Capital	180,000	180,000
			Retained Earnings	<u>471,652</u>	<u>355,725</u>
			<b>Total Shareholders Equ.</b>	<b>671,652</b>	<b>555,725</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,093,802</b>	<b>1,018,610</b>	<b>Total Liab. &amp; Sh. Equity</b>	<b>1,093,802</b>	<b>1,018,610</b>



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### Example

- License issue fee \$50k
- Annual minimum royalties \$10k yrs 2-4  
\$25k yrs 5-7  
\$50k thereafter
- Milestone payments \$50k yr 3  
\$100k yr 4  
\$250k yr 5  
\$500k yr 6
- Royalty rate 5%
- Sunk patent costs \$75k
- Annual patent costs \$10 - \$25k

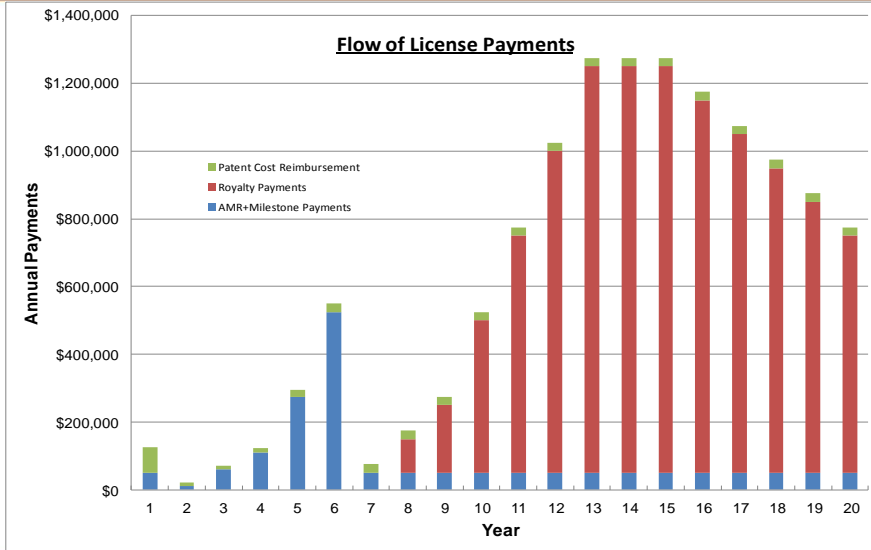


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### Product Sales

YEAR	PRODUCT SALES	YEAR	PRODUCT SALES
7	\$750,000	14	\$25,000,000
8	\$3,000,000	15	\$25,000,000
9	\$5,000,000	16	\$23,000,000
10	\$10,000,000	17	\$21,000,000
11	\$15,000,000	18	\$19,000,000
12	\$20,000,000	19	\$17,000,000
13	\$25,000,000	20	\$15,000,000



## Time Value of Money

- Hypothetically, money can be loaned and borrowed at interest (but don't tell Janet Yellen)
- Simple interest: at an interest rate of 10% per year, if I borrow \$1,000 today, then I will owe \$1,100 one year from today
  - $\$1,000 + (10\% \text{ of } \$1,000 = \$100) = \$1,100$
- Compound interest: if I repay that loan in two years, then I will owe \$1,210
  - $\$1,100 + (10\% \text{ of } \$1,100 = \$110) = \$1,210$

## Conversely ...

- Suppose somebody owed me \$1,000 one year from today
- How much would I accept for it today?
- Using that imaginary 10% interest rate, my breakeven point would be about \$909
  - \$909 invested today would yield \$90.90 in interest
  - $\$909 + \$90.90 = \$999.90$
- Offer me \$910 or above, and you've got a taker

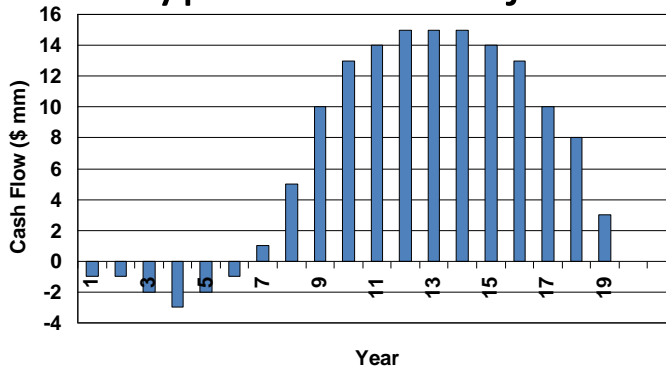
## Net Present Value

- Model out expenses and revenues as realistically as you can as far out in the future as you need
- Discount each time period's cash flow using the formula
- Sum the discounted cash flows back to today
- Et, voilà, you have arrived at the Net Present Value of your Discounted Cash Flows



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## A Typical R&D Project

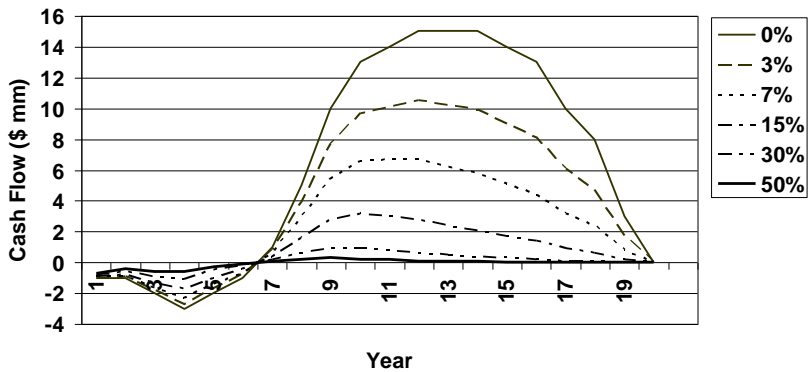


Source: Richard Razgaitis



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## How it looks at various discount rates



Source: Richard Razgaitis



## Suggested Reading

- The AUTM Licensing Manual (1994 and 2003 Editions)
  - *Valuation* -- Richard Razgaitis
  - *Finding Comparables* – Ashley Stevens
- Valuation and Pricing of Technology-Based Intellectual Property
  - Richard Razgaitis, 2002, Wiley Intellectual Property Series*
- Use of the 25 Per Cent Rule in Valuing IP
  - Robert Goldscheider, John Jarosz and Carla Mulhern, les Nouvelles 37 123-133, December 2002*

## Questions? Comments?







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 Equity Based License Agreements  
 Financial Conflicts of Interest  
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 Need to Know Basics of Technology Transfer for Support Staff  
 Negotiation of License Agreements  
 Nuts and Bolts for Compliance Under Federal Funding Awards  
 The Basics of Open Source Licensing  
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Interested? Please contact  
Melinda Briggs – [mbriggs@autm.net](mailto:mbriggs@autm.net)

