



Association of University Technology Managers®
Advancing Discoveries for a Better World®

AUTM 2017-2018 Election Board of Directors



Robert Patino, JD

Director

Southern Illinois University System

Candidate's Background

Professional Preparation

University of Iowa	Iowa City, IA	Chemical Engineering (BS 1998)
DePaul University	Chicago, IL	Law (JD 2003)

Appointments

2015 – Present
Director, Office of Technology Transfer
Southern Illinois University System

2006 – 2015
Director, Office of Technology Transfer
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine

Under both appointments – Worked to improve the operations of the technology transfer office by improving the disclosure and evaluation process of new technologies and enhanced relationships with industry partners

2011 – Present
Adjunct Professor

Southern Illinois University Law School

Taught an Intellectual Property Commercialization course that was cross listed in the College of Engineering and College of Business

2008 – Present

Adjunct Professor

Medical Humanities Department

Southern Illinois University School of Medicine

2014 – Present

Intellectual Property Advisor

SmashToast, Inc.

2004 – Present

Owner

Law Office of Robert M. Patino

Performed independent patent and trademark prosecutions for clients.

2002 – 2004

Law Clerk/Patent Agent

Greer, Burns & Crain, Ltd.

1999 – 2000

Technology Analyst

Accenture (formerly Andersen Consulting)

Publications

Moving Research to Patient Applications through Commercialization:

Understanding and Evaluating the Role of Intellectual Property, Journal of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science, Vol. 49, No. 2, March 2010 (pg. 147 - 154)

Intellectual Property Rights and Research Disclosure in the University

Environment: Preserving the Commercialization Option and Optimizing Market Interest, Journal of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science, Vol. 48, No. 2, March 2009 (pg. 138 – 143)

Synergistic Activities

Founder of Licensing Executive Society, St. Louis Chapter (Former Co-Chair)

Member of LES USA/Canada (2008 – Present)

Member of the Association of University Technology Managers and Lead for

Quick Assessment Team on Professional Exchange Initiative (2006 – Present)

Member of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (2008 – Present)

Founder and President of the Innovation Viability Network (2008 – 2014)

Former Treasurer and Former President Illinois Government Bar Association (2006 – Present)

Candidate Questionnaire

1. Why do you want to be on the AUTM Board of Directors (What motivates you to join the AUTM Board of Directors?)

AUTM's mission to support and advance technology transfer globally has firmly established roots with core support from well-established technology transfer offices throughout the world. However, I believe there is a need for these roots to spread and grow stronger in areas that are ripe for expansion and nurturing. It is incumbent upon AUTM to serve as the standard bearer for new and developing technology transfer offices in developing the profession to a competency that respects regional assets and values while offering resources and insight for those offices that require them. Furthermore, I've come to believe that there is not a "best practice" that can be applied universally amongst the varied institutions AUTM represents, but the exchange of ideas and the application of those ideas should be shared in manners that encourage networking and professional development to enhance how we serve our respective institutions.

2. Have you served in a volunteer leadership role for other organizations? If so, please explain.

I have served as past-president, past-treasurer and past director for the Illinois Government Bar Association over a span of 8 years. I have also served as co-founder and co-chair of the LES St. Louis Chapter. I founded and served as president of the Innovation Viability Network that created a network of start-up companies and inventors in central Illinois. I also serve on the Steering Committee for the Community Foundation of the Land of Lincoln's Young Philanthropists organization.

3. What special experience do you have that you feel will benefit AUTM and its members (what makes you stand out above all others)?

I have worked for and directed a technology transfer office that would be considered "small" by most measures but our institution is made up of a system of campuses and colleges spread over nearly 200 miles that require me to accommodate local considerations while ensuring decisions benefit the system as a whole. This experience makes me appreciate the benefits of being near a large metropolitan center while understanding the drive to support rural, economically challenged regions. I think this experience will give me a unique perspective to advise AUTM as it relates to considerations that affect urban and rural institutions.

4. What do you see as the major strategic issues facing technology transfer today?

I believe technology transfer faces a value proposition crisis for institutions that are not considered "profitable". Many research institutions are pressured to return value on the investments poured into securing intellectual property rights. Among other things, what is often overlooked are the other services the technology transfer offices provide. Furthermore, special challenges face institutions that do not have a medical school to enable their technology transfer offices operate in the black. As such, budget and operation costs come under increased scrutiny and

efforts need to be directed to ensure funds are being spent wisely and economic development is a key deliverable.

5. What would be your number one goal as a member of the Board of Directors for AUTM? (List the issues you would like the Board to focus on for next few years.)

My number one goal as a member of the Board of Directors for AUTM is to ensure that small and large institutions are able to benefit from AUTM's resources in a manner that drives members to want to stay engaged and grow professionally by making education, networking and volunteer opportunities relevant and compelling.

6. How do the terms (both responsibilities and time commitment) of the position fit in with your other responsibilities?

Time commitment is always a challenge but I have a proven ability to make my contributions valuable and reliable. Both the responsibilities and required time commitment for this Director's position will be taken in reverence.

7. What is a challenge AUTM faces that you feel could be addressed by strategic thinking and discussion at the Board level?

I believe AUTM needs to be a voice for the universities and research centers as it relates to policies, regulations and laws that could imperil economic development activities that are spun out of research efforts. These challenges could be addressed by strategic thinking and discussion at the Board level.

8. How has AUTM benefitted you in your work and career?

I have made some wonderful connections on a professional and friendship level. This network has allowed me to call upon those within that network for advice or contacts that might assist with a challenge or commercial opportunity.

9. Is there anything else you would like AUTM members to know about you before they vote in this year's election?

I'm presently engaged in a Quick Assessment Team to help build a professional exchange program within AUTM that will allow for senior and junior staff members to experience the operations of another office in person. These experiences are voluntary in nature and may be used for professional development, operation observations for best practices and/or experiential incentives for senior staff.

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