



For Immediate Release

New Scholarship Gives Career Guidance to Technology Transfer's Next Generation

Oakbrook Terrace, IL, June 3, 2016 – The Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM), is proud to announce the receipt of the Burroughs Wellcome Fund Career Guidance Grant to support the development of its Technology Transfer Training Program. The Program was created to provide extensive training for science and engineering students who are interested in careers in academic technology transfer with the goal of placing them in technology transfer offices.

“Technology transfer is a unique blend of science, business and law and this program will supplement our graduate and postdoctoral students’ scientific background with AUTM’s extensive training in the business and legal side of the profession, creating the next generation of highly trained technology transfer professionals,” said Dave Winwood, AUTM President.

The eight-month program will identify, train and prepare graduate and post-doctoral students to transition into the world of academic technology transfer professionals. Each participant will be assigned a mentor to guide them. They will be provided free access to AUTM’s *Technology Transfer Practice Manual (TTPM), 3rd Edition*, a four-volume collection of the industry’s best practices. Participants will also be given a core syllabus of educational webinars covering such topics as Basics of Technology Transfer, Invention Disclosures – From Cradle to Licensing, Basic Patenting, Marketing, and Negotiation.

Participants will then attend the interactive two-and-a-half-day Essentials Course which is designed for those new to the field and follows the life cycle of the invention, patenting and licensing process. For the final portion of the Training Program, participants will be recognized at the AUTM 2017 Annual Meeting in Hollywood, Florida, March 12-15. Last year’s Annual Meeting drew more than 1,900 attendees from around the world and included more than 60 educational sessions and special interest group meetings.

The grant is the result of the newly redesigned AUTM Foundation that works to strengthen and enhance AUTM’s efforts to advance academic technology transfer worldwide. The majority of the \$45,000 one-time grant will directly support the individuals selected for the program by covering expenses such as travel and registration fees.

“AUTM is widely regarded for providing exceptional educational content,” added Winwood, “and we are excited to create a nurturing program that will bring qualified, passionate individuals into the field.”

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund primarily invests in support of individual scientists who are making waves and taking risks in the biomedical sciences. They recognize that the skills needed to move forward professionally are not always acquired at the bench. The BWF Board of Directors has approved a 2016 round of funding to support academic institutions, scientific societies and other non-profits involved in training as they pilot new approaches to improving trainees' preparedness for jobs at, and away from, the bench.

About AUTM

The Association of University Technology Managers is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing research to life by supporting and enhancing the global academic technology transfer profession through education, professional development, partnering and advocacy. AUTM's more than 3,300 members represent managers of intellectual property from more than 300 universities, research institutions and teaching hospitals around the world as well as numerous businesses and government organizations. For more information, please visit www.autm.net or follow @AUTM_Network.

About the Burroughs Wellcome Fund

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund is a private, independent foundation located in Research Triangle Park, NC. BWF is dedicated to advancing biomedical sciences by supporting research and other educational endeavors. Follow on Twitter at @bwfund.

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