

Astrophysical Research Consortium Intellectual Property Policy

This policy is applicable to all intellectual property arising in connection with Astrophysical Research Consortium (ARC) activities. This includes activities funded or otherwise supported by ARC and those that are dependent upon use of ARC facilities and/or instruments. The policy will be administered by the ARC Treasurer, unless and until the Board of Governors (Board) delegates that authority/responsibility to some other corporate officer.

For purposes of this policy, Intellectual Property is defined as all technology such as patentable or unpatentable inventions, discoveries, computer software, trade secrets, copyright, and any directly related technical or scientific know-how.

It is anticipated that most Intellectual Property arising within the scope of this policy will be invented, discovered, created, or authored by faculty members or other professional employees of ARC member institutions. In general, it is the policy of those several institutions that their faculty and other professional employees agree to assign title to Intellectual Property they develop to the institution. ARC will honor those institutions' policies and related employee agreements, thus allowing ARC member institutions to hold title to, and administer, Intellectual Property developed by their faculty or other professional employees in connection with ARC activities. However, ARC requires that Intellectual Property resulting from ARC activities disclosed to ARC member institutions be reported, within three (3) months of disclosure, to the ARC Treasurer or other corporate officer responsible for administering ARC's intellectual property policy.

Title and other rights associated with Intellectual Property developed in ARC activities by persons other than faculty or other professional employees of ARC member institutions will be covered by separate agreements negotiated on a case-by-case basis. In each such case, ARC will assert a position of ownership and control of the Intellectual Property unless persuaded by the pertinent circumstances that a lesser position for ARC is appropriate and justified. At the least, ARC will expect to receive an appropriate share of any licensing fees or royalties resulting from Intellectual Property developed in ARC activities. Unless and until the Board chooses an alternative delegation, the ARC Treasurer is delegated authority/responsibility for conducting or supervising any negotiations with other parties, and is expected to seek advice and counsel from intellectual property attorneys, consultants, and other experts as needed to ensure informed and prudent decisions and actions. Unless otherwise specified by the Board, any fee/royalty income received by ARC will be credited to the Sinking Funds.

Contacts

Questions related to the interpretation of this policy should be directed to the ARC Secretary/Treasurer.

Effective Date: November 2009
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