

May 2, 2007

To: The University Community

From: Gunta J. Lidars
Associate VP for Research Administration
Office of Research and Project Administration

Please note that the administration and negotiation of Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs) has been transferred to ORPA from the Offices of Technology Transfer (OTT). This action was made as a result of the [recommendations of the Steering Committee on Technology Transfer and Corporate Alliances](#) to President Seligman. As noted in the recommendations, the University has provided additional resources in order to expedite and facilitate the negotiation of these agreements.

MTAs are agreements that govern the terms of (primarily) biological materials being provided to, or sent from, the University of Rochester. These agreements are negotiated and executed to protect the intellectual and property rights of both parties with respect to the materials, as well as potential liability. We are very pleased that we have been able to recruit two staff professionals that are familiar with the negotiation of MTA's, as well as faculty requirements to receive materials in a timely manner and be informed of significant issues that may affect rights to publication or technology transfer.

Further information on MTAs, including forms and template agreements, can be found on ORPA's web site at <http://www.rochester.edu/ORPA/MatTransfer/index.htm>. ORPA will continue to work closely with the OTT offices when MTAs may overlap with potential licensing of materials or technology. We have also added a comments section on this web page in order to provide ORPA with ongoing feedback on our process. We thank the OTT offices for the resource materials and tools that we were easily able to transfer to ORPA, and we look forward to providing excellent service to University researchers in this area.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or either of our MTA Administrators, Anne Corriveau (anne.corriveau@rochester.edu) or Tammie Martin (<mailto:tmartin@UR.Rochester.edu>).