



VRC Director Named Washingtonian of the Year

Richelle Holnick, OTT

Dr. John Mascola, director of the Vaccine Research Center (VRC), was named a 2020 Washingtonian of the Year. He was honored for his contributions to the COVID-19 pandemic. As director of NIAID's VRC, Mascola has been intimately involved with the country's COVID-19 response efforts, both in his work at the VRC and by assisting in the larger government response. Mascola oversees a team of scientists who focus on disease outbreaks and rapid responses, so they were prepared to respond to the pandemic quickly.



Credit: NIAID

A unique feature of the VRC is that it is led by a wide variety of specialists including ones from the disciplines of immunology, virology, structural biology, and bioengineering. Having such a varied team matched with the capability to conduct human clinical trials allows the VRC to be able to accelerate the process of scientific discovery in order to develop prototype vaccines and biologics to protect against infectious diseases. Since the VRC is able to shift resources quickly within its integrated research program, it has been able to shorten the time needed between the identification of a pathogen's genetic sequence and the clinical testing of an experimental vaccine when there is an unexpected disease outbreak. They developed a COVID-19 vaccine with biotech partner Moderna and started human trials in an astounding 65 days – a new record. Mascola has worked tirelessly with his teams at the VRC and with Operation Warp Speed making an obvious choice for the award.



The Washingtonian of the Year award is given to ten individuals in the Washington area whose work or volunteering makes it a better place to live. They look for forward thinkers who are committed to improving lives in the community. This definition certainly fits Mascola. He has worked at the VRC since its inception and has been the director since 2013. Mascola and the VRC continue to research more than just the coronavirus, they are also testing vaccines for influenza and childhood pneumonia. In the past, the VRC has responded to HIV, Ebola, and Zika outbreaks and continue to work on these diseases today.



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CPARS
IS COMING
—————→
05.20.2021

LPM/TTPS/TTMs: Connect with your IC CORs for
more information.

The New Agreement on the Block

Jasmine Kalsi, NCATS

NIH commonly utilizes inter-institutional agreements (IIAs) to consolidate IP rights for NIH inventions jointly developed with academic collaborators. IIAs enable one of the parties to take the lead in patent prosecution and licensing efforts for joint IP. Under standard practice at the NIH, the collaborator taking the lead could enjoy an exclusive license to joint IP without going through the process of the Notice of Intent to Grant Exclusive License in the Federal Register (FR) for said joint IP.



In 2019 the picture changed and going forward FR notices would be required prior to granting any rights under an IIA, unless the joint IP was a CRADA Subject Invention and/or the jointly owned IP were developed under an NIH grant to the collaborator. In the case of collaborators who were bringing background patents and who sought to further develop and commercialize their technologies, it was reasonable and desirable to let the collaborator take the lead in further developing the joint IP without the undue burden of having to post FR notices. Such FR notices could delay IP management and stifle the transfer of the technology, while making collaborations with NIH less attractive. A regular research collaboration agreement (RCA) would not have the “teeth” of cooperative research and development agreement (CRADA) in obviating the need for FR notices before granting an IIA.



Collaborate, Cooperate, Co-Create

The solution to this conundrum was the collaborative research collaboration agreement (C-RCA). The NIH Office of General Counsel (OGC) suggested amending a regular RCA to include a phrase that explicitly called the new agreement a CRADA, and to incorporate a statement that said, “The Parties have agreed that no licenses or license options are granted...under this agreement. Nevertheless... entertain and

review in good faith a license application from Collaborator...” This proved to be a simple winning solution. Working with various sections of the NIH technology transfer community, OGC, and the NIH CRADA Subcommittee Chair, a consensus emerged for adopting the proposed C-RCA. This was truly a team effort that was supported by all NIH Institutes including NINDS, NIMH, NIDDK, NHGRI, NCI, NIAID and NHLBI, as well as OTT and all the Institutes served by the above stand-alone offices.

The C-RCA is entirely based on the RCA template and references certain CRADA statutes to bring it within the purview of the CRADA authority. The new C-RCA precludes the exchange of any funds amongst the Parties, does not require any Ethics Clearance, nor does it need to be reviewed by the NIH CRADA subcommittee. Any invention developed under the C-RCA would be considered a CRADA Subject Invention and as such would be exempted from the FR Notice.

ETT Implementation Update

Tim Leahy, OTT

We have laid out a 3-phase approach to implementation of the new Enterprise Technology Transfer System (ETT). The goals of each phase are described in the table below.



Phase I – Establish ETT STAGE	
Primary Goal	Sub-task Goals
Establish ETT STAGE as a fully-functional practice environment for testing and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refine the data migration process • Establish consensus on the layout of the system • Develop the new Law Firm Portal • Confirm that all controls work as expected
Phase II – Testing and Training	
Primary Goal	Sub-task Goals
Allow users to practice working in the ETT STAGE environment to become familiar with the new system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train users on the layout and operation of controls in the ETT System • Train users on how business functions will be performed in the ETT System • Allow users time to practice and get comfortable working in the new system • Adjust reports, SOPs, and templates as needed to work in the new system
Phase III – Go Live in ETT	
Primary Goal	Sub-task Goals
Move all technology transfer operations to the ETT system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build the Production system • Receive Authority to Operate (ATO) from Information Systems Security Office (ISSO) • Migrate data from all legacy systems • Begin performing all day-to-day business activities in the new system • Conduct post-migration data cleanup to remove duplicate records

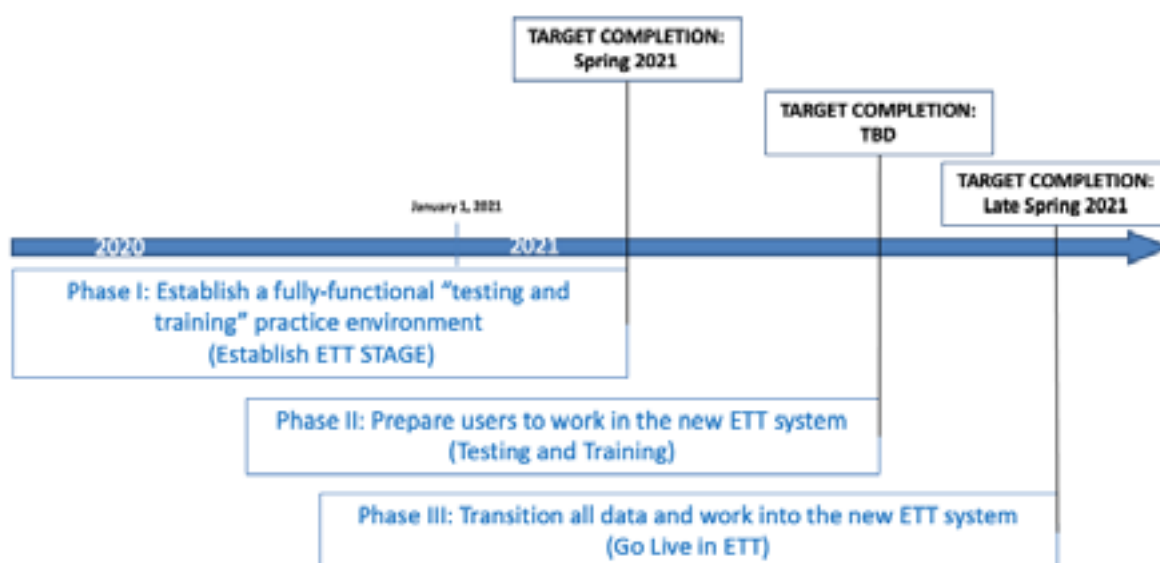
To compress the time required for implementation of the ETT system, work in each phase is being started as soon as possible, although Phase II cannot be completed until all Phase I activities are complete, and Phase III cannot be completed until all Phase II activities are complete. For this reason, some of the planned work is already in process for all three phases, even though none of the phases is fully completed. The current status of each phase is provided below.

Phase I – NEARING COMPLETION. The ETT STAGE environment has been implemented and tested. Baseline requirements have been defined for all modules. All modules except the Patent Module have been validated, and Patent Module validation is now in process. Law Firm Portal development is substantially complete – pending on any changes to the Patent Module during validation. Data migration routines have been developed and tested for OTT, NCI, NHLBI, NIAID, NIDCR, and NIDDK. Development and testing of migration routines for NCATS, NHGRI, NIMH, and NINDS is in process, now that an acceptable method of exporting the data from those systems has been implemented.

Phase II – IN PROCESS. System training for users has been completed for the CRM, Technology, License, and Transactional Agreement modules, as well as for common system controls. System training is pending for the CRADA and Patent modules. At this time, we are beginning to identify stakeholder teams from each organization (OTT and every IC) to validate current IC business processes and workflows within the new ETT System. Because we are moving to an enterprise system, in which all NIH technology transfer personnel will use the same software and database to perform their day-to-day tasks, it is expected that some processes and workflows will need to be changed to function smoothly within the new system. Once any necessary changes have been identified, the ETT team will work with stakeholder teams to develop customized workflow training for each organization. Documentation of IC-specific workflows for Transactional Agreements is now in process, and should be completed within the next two weeks, at which time training on the specific Transactional Agreement business processes for each IC and OTT will be available to all users. The customized workflow training activity will then shift to documenting IC-specific workflows for one of the other ETT modules; most likely the CRADA module. Work on reports, automated workflows, and templates will begin as soon as all Phase I data migration work is completed.

Phase III – IN PROCESS. Currently establishing network and server resources for the ETT Production environment. ATO documentation is in process. Full build-out of Production and final migration plan and schedule are pending.

Where we are, and where we're going



FLC National Meeting

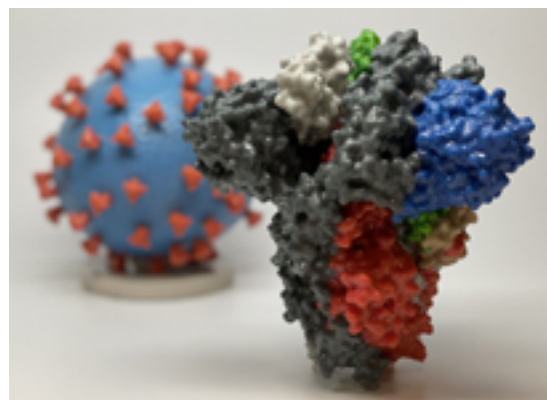
Richelle Holnick, OTT

The 2021 Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC) for Technology Transfer National Meeting took place April 6-8th. It was the largest federal technology transfer meeting of the year. The FLC supports federal laboratories, agencies, and research centers by encouraging commercialization best practices and creating opportunities to move federal technologies from the labs and into the marketplace and each year rewards the technology transfer work that makes the largest impact.

The first day featured a full day of concurrent sessions that followed three different training tracks – T2 for Beginners, CRADA Workshop, and AUTM Marketing Strategies. The following two days featured concurrent sessions that covered a variety of topics such as T2 and Non-Traditional Labs, Venture Funding in Early-Stage Technologies, and the Bayh-Dole Act. This year was virtual of course, and while that presented new ways for socializing and networking, it was nice to attend from the comfort of our homes!

As the grand finale of the meeting, the 2021 FLC Awards were given out. A total of 33 awards were made across nine different technology transfer categories, in addition to a special COVID-19 Response Award.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) took home the **Excellence in Technology Transfer Award** for their work on *“Rapid Sharing of SARS-CoV-2 Prefusion Stabilized Spike Proteins and Plasmids”*. A team of scientists at NIAID found that three different antibodies against the SARS-CoV spike protein didn’t bind to the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, illuminating the need for a SARS-CoV-2 specific vaccine and antibody-based treatment. This meant that it was very important to rapidly share the SARS-CoV-2 prefusion stabilized spike protein and the plasmids encoding them. NIAID’s Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Office (TTIPO) was able to execute or assist with the execution of agreements to share these findings at an extraordinary speed. As of October 8th, NIAID TTIPO signed 83 Material Transfer Agreements, 44 agreements for collaborations with the Vaccine Research Center (VRC), and 21 licenses with biotech and pharma companies for technologies related to SARS-CoV-2 prefusion stabilized spike proteins.



The National Cancer Institute’s (NCI) Technology Transfer Center started a yearly event in 2017 with the Frederick National Laboratory (FNL) to highlight technologies and inventions available for licensing and collaboration. The *“Annual National Cancer Institute and Frederick National Laboratory Technology Showcase”* won the **State and Local Economic Development Award**. Hosting the event at FNL allowed everyone to take advantage of the

regional resources and relationships that the City and County of Frederick have. In the years since its inception, the Tech Showcase has highlighted 86 cancer technologies, 34 investigators have presented their technologies, many relationships were established, and several regional biotechs have shared their experience in partnering with the federal government.



On February 21, 2020 NIAID's Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (DMID) started an Adaptive COVID-19 Treatment Trial (ACTT) to test Gilead's antiviral drug remdesivir, in a phase III trial. For their work in initiating a large international clinical trial for a potential treatment within weeks of the discovery of SARS-CoV-2, submission name "*Enable ACTT trial to test remdesivir as a COVID-19 treatment*", NIAID took home the **Impact Award**. Remdesivir is an inhibitor of the viral RNA polymerase, so it became an early therapeutic candidate for COVID-19. This was the first clinical trial in the U.S. for an experimental treatment for COVID-19. The FDA approved remdesivir for the treatment of COVID-19 patients on October 22, 2020, and it became the first therapy to receive FDA approval.



Credit: CDC NCEZID Puerto Rico lab

For their work on "*Trap to Control Mosquitoes that Spread Dengue and Other Viruses*" the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) was awarded the **Excellence in Technology Transfer Award**. The CDC developed a trap to monitor and control mosquito populations without using pesticides. The trap is made of a 5-gallon bucket that attracts mosquitoes by using water and an organic hay attractant. The mosquitoes become trapped in a nontoxic, sticky glue adhesive. The tool is designed to control the population of mosquitoes to help decrease the spread of Zika, dengue, and other viruses. This

trap is inexpensive, non-toxic, and requires no power to use. It was successful in its field trials at both reducing the mosquito population and the rate of infection in the community.

For NIAID and the CDC's work on "*SARS-CoV-2 Virus Specimen and Material Sharing*" they have received the **Interagency Partnership Award**. The CDC and NIAID had already developed a new approach to sharing samples during a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) during the Zika pandemic, which enabled them to respond quickly and efficiently to access and share samples of SARS-CoV-2 early in the outbreak. They had developed the Emergency Use Simple Letter Agreement (EUSLA), a streamlined MTA, to allow the use of materials needed to prevent, detect, prepare for, and respond to, during an emergency situation. Another effort that proved invaluable was a biorepository that can receive, grow, and validate viral isolates and other materials to distribute as needed. This prior work allowed the CDC and NIAID to rapidly share the materials related to SARS-CoV-2. A special **COVID-19 Response Award** distinction was also given this year to recognize federal technology transfer's impact on the fight against COVID-19, and NIAID and the CDC won this distinction along with their Interagency Partnership award.

Technology Transfer Community Website Update

Brian Gallagher, Sapiant

We are nearing the launch of the new Tech Transfer Community website! This great new site will have an improved user experience from internal and external audiences alike. There will be improved search functionality, a more attractive design, and an easy to navigate interface. After the launch of the new website, it will be upgraded from Drupal 7 to Drupal 8 this summer. This new site has been designed based on community and customer input. IC representatives were able to review changes as they were made in the TEST environment and make suggestions based on the Tech Transfer Community needs.

One of the most exciting upgrades is the improved search functionality. When a potential partner comes to the website, they will land on the home page and see a prominent search bar that will invite them to search through available NIH technology. They will be able to filter by type, development stage, disease area, technology, if a collaboration is sought, and by IC. This improved search capability will allow a faster search process and better user experience.

These technologies will be pulled in from TechTracS, and then ETT once launched, so it is very important that the information in the database is accurate! Each IC is encouraged to review their current invention abstracts to ensure that they are up to date and to unpublish any that are no longer available for licensing due to abandonment or an exclusive license.

In order for this search function to work, the tags that categorize each technology needed to be re-evaluated. This past quarter, IC representatives met to discuss what the tagging structure should be in order to allow users to quickly filter the full set of NIH technologies down to a usable set of results that match the user's interests. After the initial meeting, the IC representatives were asked to complete a survey of what tags they felt were important, needed to be added, or needed to be removed. A second meeting was held to consolidate these results and come to a shared conclusion. These tags are now being implemented onto the new website.

An Awareness Campaign will be done to attract new partners and to let previous



partners know about our updates. This will draw fresh eyes to the website, so please write abstracts for any new patent filings or new material licensing opportunities and post them to the TABS section of TechTracS. The more technologies that are available when people come to search, the better!

The new home page will also encourage users to explore featured research, review featured products, and read news articles. The ICs are always welcome to request an article be written on their technology, product, PI, event, etc. ICs are also welcome to send in an article to be posted that they have written. If interested, please reach out to Steve Ferguson (steven.ferguson@nih.gov) or Richelle Holnick (richelle.holnick@nih.gov) and we would be delighted to work with you!

API vs IPA – Not Another MicroBrew

Richelle Holnick, OTT

With so many acronyms these days it can be hard to keep them all straight. You may have heard people discuss OTT's API, and, no, it is not a fun new office drink. OTT's API allows other websites to pull from the list of available inventions and materials.

API stands for Application Programming Interface and is the intermediary that allows two applications to connect. An example of this is when you search for hotel deals online. You might use a third-party site, like Trivago, to search for many different hotels all in the same city. An API is how Trivago knows the available hotels that meet your needs. There are many sites that access NIH's technologies in a similar fashion, such as Seed Spring and TDP Data Systems.

These external sites are able to access the data because it is stored in the NIH technology transfer database, soon to be the Enterprise Technology Transfer (ETT) system and displayed on the Tech Transfer Community Website. The API allows other sites and applications to directly access the data from the Tech Transfer Community Website without having to go through the user interface, which allows it to display along with inventions and materials from other websites. It is a great tool for broadening each technology's reach.



External organizations are not the only people who can benefit from OTT's API. As we launch the new Tech Transfer Community website and ETT, each IC can use the API to access the latest data directly from the Tech Transfer Community Website. Once set up, inventions and technologies that are entered into ETT can flow through to the IC's website.

NIH Librarian's T2 Tip Of The Month – SciFinderⁿ

Josh Duberman, NIH Library

This month's T2 tip from your NIH Library showcases SciFinderⁿ, with access to Chemical Abstracts, the world's largest scientific information database. It covers information from patents, journals, property values and vendors, with keyword, substance, sub-structure and reaction searching. SciFinderⁿ is now available to all NIH staff at no additional charge – request an account at <https://www.nihlibrary.nih.gov/get-help/scifinder-registration>



The NIH Library class, “SciFinderⁿ Basics and Refresher” , will be offered 11:00AM -- 12:00PM on Wednesday 5/19/21; register [here](#).

A recorded seminar “SciFinderⁿ - it's not just for chemistry” is available [on their website](#).
(note: the link doesn't work with Internet Explorer; you must use Chrome or FireFox)

Other SciFinderⁿ webinars are at available [here](#).

[SciFinderⁿ training](#) includes ‘Getting Started’ and searching for substances, reactions, references, patents and biosequences.

Please note that allowable use of SciFinderⁿ is detailed in their [policy](#).

If you have any questions, [ask me](#) or the [NIH Library](#)



SciFINDERⁿ

A CAS SOLUTION



Off Campus – Frederick National Laboratory

Richelle Holnick, OTT

The Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research (FNL) was originally known as the Frederick Cancer Research and Development Center. It was established in 1972 and designated as a Federally Funded Research and Development Center in 1975. In 2012 it received its current name, which formally designates it as a federal national laboratory. It is sponsored by the National Cancer Institute and run by Leidos Biomedical Research, Inc.

FNL is a federally funded and contractor-run laboratory. Tom Sova, FNL Senior Technology Transfer Manager, says that what makes FNL unique is that “as of the federally funded research and development centers (FFRDCs), the FNL is the only FFRDC focused singularly on biomedical research. The mission of the FNL includes working at the forefront of basic, translational, and clinical science with a focus on cancer, AIDS, and infectious disease. It’s an incredible mission and one that touches real lives every day.” The focus of this research can encompass many categories such as genetics, genomics, protein science, proteomics, bioinformatics, high-performance biomedical computing, laboratory animal sciences, and clinical operations. This research creates opportunities for technology transfer and business and economic development. The lab is able to bridge the gap between late discovery and early development of diagnostics and therapeutics by creating cross-cutting technology platforms and proposing new data standards.

The FNL and NCI take advantage of FNL’s position in the Frederick, Maryland community to host an Annual Technology Showcase. This event encourages collaboration and licensing of inventions from the FNL and NCI to regional technology developers. Researchers are able to pitch their technologies to biotechnology development stakeholders, instead using traditional scientific presentations. These stakeholders are then able to ask researchers their questions directly. This event also serves as a professional development opportunity for researchers to have a better idea of how to move their research through the development stages to market. This popular event has received awards both internal and external, including an NCI Director’s Award, a BioBuzz Award, and a Federal Laboratory Consortium award.

When asked what he enjoys most about working at the FNL, Sova states that “I most enjoy hearing



about the advances in cancer science. My grandfather died of colon cancer when I was younger – he was only 54 years old. At the time, colon cancer was seen as a death sentence. Today, through the research efforts of those at the NCI and the FNL, colon cancer is now very beatable. Every day I am more optimistic about the future of cancer treatment and any role I can play in that effort is an honor.”

The FNL is a unique part of the HHS umbrella. It is able to use private sector resources to rapidly accomplish tasks that are important to the mission and operation of NCI. To find out more about the FNL, you can visit their website [here](#).

FNL

NIH Technology Transfer Annual Report



Have you gotten a chance to read the FY2020 NIH Technology Transfer Annual Report yet? Click on the report to be taken to a PDF online.

The NCATS Office of Strategic Alliances presents

FEDERAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER: MEASURING IMPACT, INNOVATION & EFFICIENCIES



May 13th & 14th, 2021



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<https://sites.google.com/ncats.nih.gov/osa-metrics-workshop/home>

Intended Workshop Audience



Technology Transfer Practitioners

Entrepreneurs, Investors, Collaborators, Licensees

Scientific Administrators, Program Evaluators, Policy Makers

Executive Management, Economic Development Professionals, Patient Advocates

Members of AUTM, FLC, BIO, LES

For More Information

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SharePoint MS Office Document Access Recommendations

Mitchell Ha, Sapiant

Laptops can come equipped with different configurations and browsers which leads to different experiences when accessing Microsoft Office documents on SharePoint. Certain browsers lead to better or worse experiences, so we are recommending a standardized way of accessing and editing Microsoft Office documents (referred to as documents or files in this context).

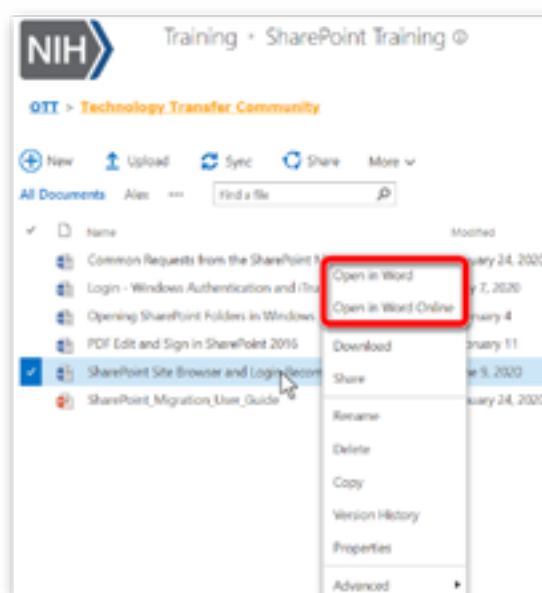
For the scenarios laid out below, Internet Explorer (not Edge) is recommended. If Internet Explorer is not available, use Firefox. Other browsers are not recommended at this time. Using other browsers might produce errors on the page, or the pages and windows within the browser might come up skewed or compressed.

MS Document Access Recommendation: Use Right Click (as of March 2021)

Please make sure the computer has the latest version of the Operating System (Windows 10, Windows XP, etc.), and the latest version of the browser (recommended browsers below).

In a SharePoint page, documents will appear as a link: Right click on the link and there will be two options to open the file.

1. Open in native application installed on the computer (in this case “Open in Word”).
2. Open in the browser by using an online version of the native application (in this case “Open in Word Online”).
 - a. The online application will have limited features compared to the native application.



Single Left Clicking on Files

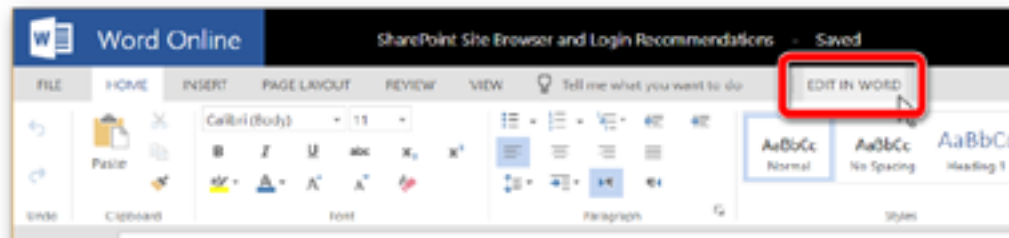
Single left clicking on the file name might result in different experiences. The file might come up in the browser; it might come up in the native application; it might ask for credentials; it might download a copy of the file on to the computer and the user will have to find/open the file.

If the single left clicking on the file is providing the experience the user desires, please continue to use the single left click to access the file. If there is an issue, please create a [helpdesk ticket](#) referenced to *OD-NIH-OTT SharePoint Support*.

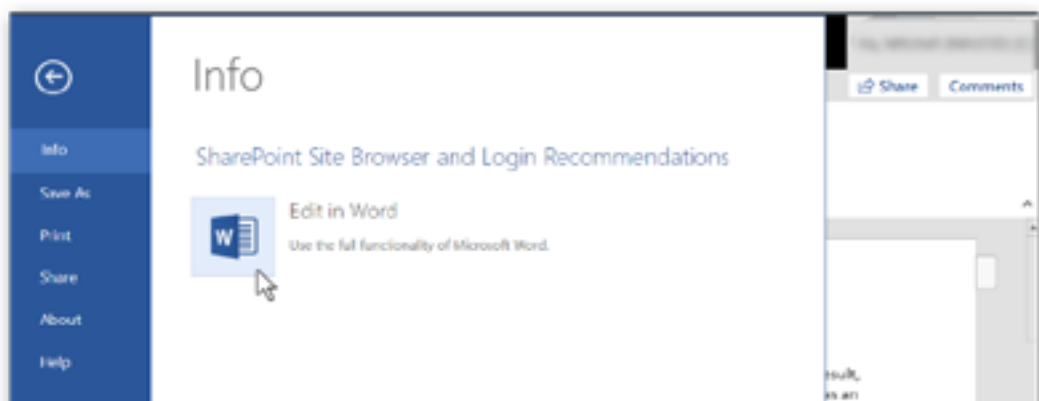
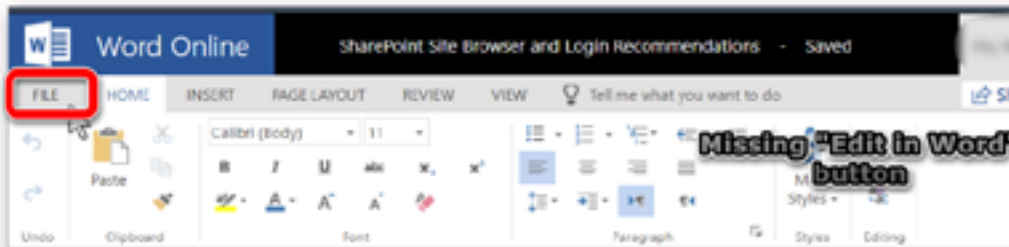
Going from Office Online to Native Application

If the user has opened the file online and wishes to continue editing in the native application, they have two options:

1. Click on the Edit in Word button located on the upper right hand side.



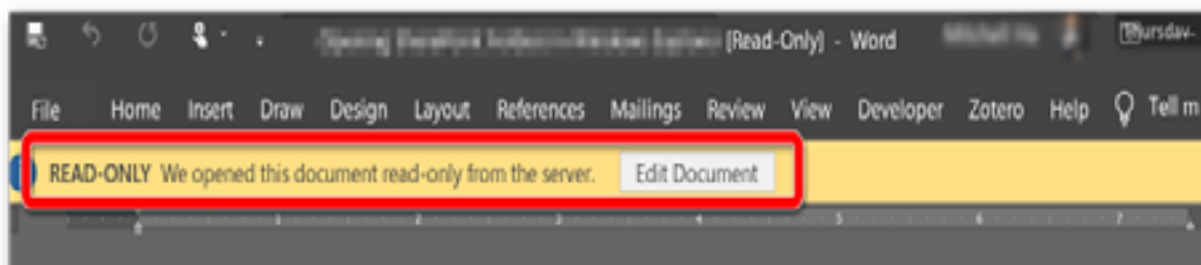
2. If the Edit in Word button is not visible, can click on the File tab and access the button.








Editing in Native Application if Opened in Read-Only Mode

When opening online files in the native application, the file might be locked or set to be in Read-Only mode.

If the file is in Read-Only mode, click on the “Edit Document” button to edit and save the file.



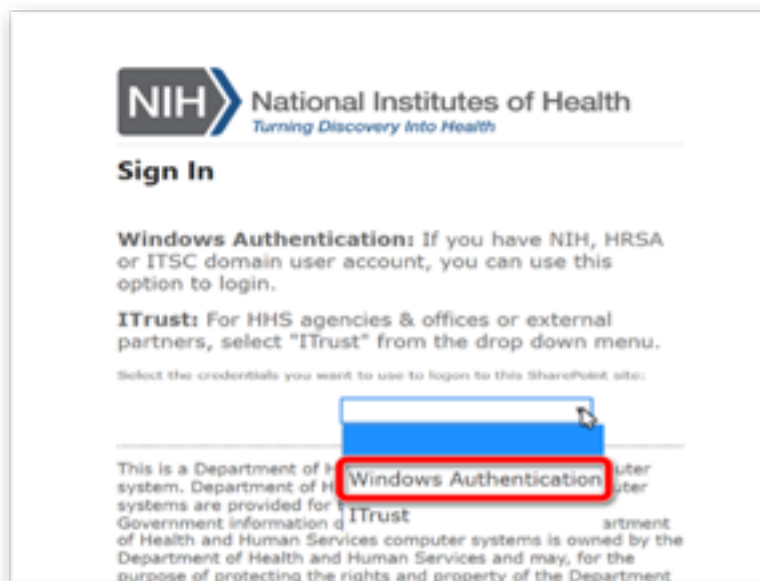
Recommended Browsers (as of March 2021)

Browsers Recommended	Internet Explorer 	Firefox 	
Browsers Not Recommended	Chrome 	Microsoft Edge 	Safari 

Please note that these recommendations might change for newer releases, at which time we will update these guidelines.

Login Recommendation

1. For NIH employees and contractors: if you are not physically at a NIH location, please connect via VPN.
 - a. When connecting to OTT SharePoint over VPN, the system might ask the user to authenticate. If that is the case, the user should use their NIH username and password in the form of "NIH\[username]" and password. If they use the PIV card, they will be denied access as the certificates stored within the card will not identify them.
2. Go to [OTT Technology Transfer Center](#).
 - a. If the user is part of NIH, HRSA or ITSC domain and are already VPN'd into the network, they should choose the **Windows Authentication** option to login. They might need to use their **username** and **password**.
 - b. For CDC and FDA clients, please use iTrust to login. They should use their **username** and **password**.



If you have any OTT SharePoint related requests, please submit a [helpdesk ticket](#) referenced to *OD-NIH-OTT SharePoint Support*

“Improbable” Inventors

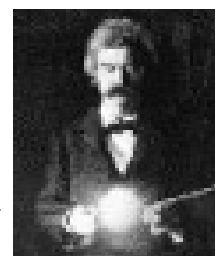
Barry Buchbinder, NIAID



[Josef Strauss](#), an Austrian composer, was the son of Johann Strauss I and brother of Johann Strauss II, Vienna’s “Watz Kings”. He worked as an engineer before making a career in music. (His best known work is probably the “[Pizzicato Polka](#)”, which he co-authored with his brother Johann.) He designed a horse-drawn version of the modern street-sweeper.

[Samuel L. Clemens](#), perhaps better known as the author Mark Twain, patented a self-pasting scrapbook ([US 140,245](#)) in 1873.

From this book lacking words, he made ¼ as much as he did from all his books with words. He also patented a memory improving game. Clemens was interested in technology, being one of the first writers to compose at the typewriter and having written a novel with a technical theme (*A Connecticut Yankee in the Court of King Arthur*). He also invested in new technologies, sometimes resulted in significant financial losses.



Samel L. Clemens shown here with an invention of Nicola Tesla

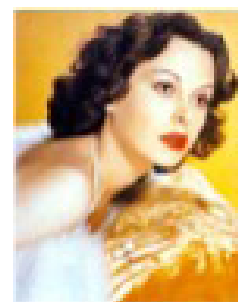
From *A Connecticut Yankee*

That reminds me to remark, in passing, that the very first official thing I did, in my administration—and it was on the very first day of it, too—was to start a patent office; for I knew that a country without a patent office and good patent laws was just a crab, and couldn’t travel any way but sideways or backways.



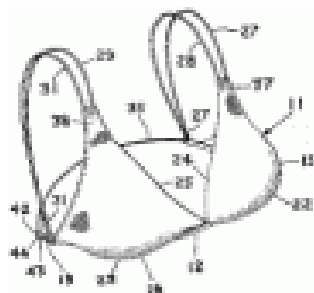
During the 1930’s, [Fred Waring](#), leader of the musical group “Fred Waring and the Pennsylvanians”, invented the first electric blender, the “Waring blender”, which became a commonly used laboratory apparatus.

[Hedy Lamarr](#), actress (title roles in *White Cargo* (1942) and *Samson and Delilah* (1949)), patented [US 2,392,387](#) a “Secret Communication System” in 1942 (using her then married name, Hedy Kiesler Markey). This method of switching radio frequencies to avoid detection and jamming of radio-guided torpedoes was co-invented with avant-garde composer [George Antheil](#). The patent was given to the US Navy but not used during World War II. The basic concept is now being used in spread spectrum or [frequency hopping](#) wireless communications.



[Michael Jackson](#) was co-inventor on a 1993 patent for a “Method and Means for Creating Anti-Gravity Illusion” ([US 5,255,452](#)).

[Herbert “Zeppo” Marx](#), straight man of the Marx Brothers comedy troupe, patented a wristwatch-like “Cardiac Pulse Rate Monitor” in 1969 ([US 3,473,526](#)).



Actress [Julie Newmar](#), who, in the 1960’s, played Catwoman on TV’s *Batman* and the title role of TV’s *My Living Doll*, had three issued US patents. These were for “Panty hose with Shaping Band for Cheeky Derrier Relief” ([US 3,914,799](#), [US 4,003,094](#)) and a “Brassiere” ([US 3,935,865](#)). (The USPTO uses Ms. Newmar’s name as an example on its [advanced search](#) page.)

Spread the Word: NIAID Seeks New T2 Fellows

Are you a part of any alumni networks? Are you plugged into any industry groups? If so, please share NIAID’s fellowship openings. A shareable PDF with all relevant information is located [here](#). Visit the [TTIPO website](#) for more information.



The NIAID is seeking motivated and highly qualified applicants for the NIAID Technology Transfer Fellowship Program (TTFP) in the Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Office (TTIPO). TTIPO advances development and commercialization of NIAID and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) inventions.

The NIAID TTFP enables individuals to complement their scientific and/or legal background with experience in technology transfer. Work side-by-side with world-renowned NIAID and CDC scientists and be a part of the team that helps transfer innovations from the lab to commercial products (including vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics) that benefit global public health.

Fellows in the NIAID TTFP will be mentored in areas such as:

- Reviewing inventions reported by NIAID or CDC scientists for potential patenting, licensing, and/or marketing.
- Negotiating confidential disclosure agreements, material transfer agreements, clinical trial agreements, cooperative research and development agreements, and other technology transfer agreements for NIAID.
- Negotiating licenses for NIAID and CDC technologies and monitoring CDC licenses for compliance.



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Comings & Goings



Donna Diggs retired from the NIH in January. Donna graduated from West Springfield High School and went to Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) and received an AA in secretarial science, back when you had to have shorthand. She worked at NOVA, then at the Department of Justice, and then at the Frederick County Sheriff's Office before becoming a stay-at-home Mom. She started at OTT when her older daughter started college so she did not have to take out loans, in February of 1999. She loves to travel with her husband, and spend time getting familiar with the local culture. Her recent vacation to Hawaii was awesome. She loves retirement already and spends a good amount of time volunteering at the food



Kevin Doran has been selected as the new Royalties Administrator at OTT. Kevin started working in OTT in November 2016 as a Royalties Coordinator and in June 2019 was selected for the Royalties Analyst position. He is the perfect fit for this new responsibility since he has been serving as back up to the Royalties Administrator for quite some time. Kevin has also been actively involved in troubleshooting SharePoint and TechTracS issues on behalf of the Royalties Administration Unit (RAU) and has been our “go-to guy” for generating the Monthly RAU Docket Reports. In addition to taking on additional projects, Kevin has done an outstanding job managing his royalties license docket and has been serving on the Technology Transfer User Group (TTUG).



Rebecca Erwin-Cohen joined the NCATS Office of Strategic Alliances in August 2020 as a technology transfer patenting and licensing specialist. Rebecca earned her Bachelor of Science in biology from Gannon University, a Master of Science in virology and immunology from Hood College, and her Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Epidemiology from Walden University. Rebecca has authored many articles on scientific topics. Rebecca continues to mentor students and fellows as they explore career options and is active as a Consulting Editor with the NIH Fellows Editorial Board.



Laura Bailey Joell serves as a program support specialist in the NCATS Office of Strategic Alliances (OSA), where she provides administrative support to the OSA director and other OSA staff members. Prior to joining NCATS, Bailey Joell acquired seven years of professional experience working alongside an executive team, including as an intellectual property specialist at Oliff PLC, a law firm specializing in patent, litigation and trademark acquisition. During her tenure, she met aggressive deadlines and managed patents using progressive systems and applications, including accounting software, mass communication procedures and organizational applications.



Jasmine Kalsi is the newest Technology Transfer and Patent Specialist in the NCATS Office of Strategic Alliances'. She joins the NIH from the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Tobacco Products where she served as a scientific reviewer. Prior to joining the FDA, she was a technology transfer and intellectual property fellow at the NIAID's Technology Transfer Office. Her professional experience includes process development and formulations chemistry roles where she developed small molecule drug substances and drug products.



Tara Kirby has been appointed as NIH's Agency Representative to the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer (FLC). She succeeds Karen Rogers, NIH's prior representative in this position, whom we thank for her service. As the Agency Representative, Tara will represent the high-level interests of NIH and serve as an institutional link between the FLC and NIH. She will also advise the FLC leadership on NIH's mission and priorities and support the accomplishment of FLC goals and mandates.



Theodoric Mattes has joined the NIAID TTIPO Team as a Technology Transfer and Patent Specialist. Ted rejoins us from our CDC Team. Ted's received his B.S. from the University of Nebraska and his Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Georgia. Prior to his fellowship with us, Ted had successive experiences in technology transfer as an Intern with the University of Georgia and as an Entrepreneurial Lead. The combination of these experiences along with his time as our CDC Team Fellow where he worked on challenging patenting, licensing and monitoring related matters solidified Ted's interest in pursuing a career in technology transfer to improve global public health.



Barbara McGarey is coming back to HHS Office of the General Counsel after a long career in public health at the NIH, DoJ, and HHS OGC. She most recently served as lead counsel for the NIH from 2001-2018. Prior to this role, she was the Deputy Director of OTT. She has extensive knowledge and experience on the funding and regulation of biomedical research, with an emphasis on public private partnerships and intellectual property law. She began her legal career through the Honors Program at the Department of Justice in the Civil Division, Office of Consumer Litigation. Barbara graduated with honors from Catholic University Law School, where she served on the Catholic University Law Review and as a founding co-editor of the Journal of Contemporary Health Law.



Jeremiah Mitzelfelt is the new Team Lead for the CDC Team in TTIPO. Dr. Mitzelfelt joined TTIPO in 2016 as a Licensing and Patenting Manager for the CDC Team and was later promoted to a Senior Technology Transfer and Patenting Specialist where he has managed the CDC's vector borne infectious disease portfolio as well as some of the high-consequence pathogens. Prior to joining TTIPO, he was a Life Sciences Technology Analyst in the Office of Technology Commercialization at the University of Maryland, College Park. He received his Ph.D. in Medical Science with an advanced concentration in Neuroscience from the University of Florida and his M.S. in Regulatory Science from the University of Maryland, Baltimore.



Luis Medina-Sanchez recently completed the NIAID Technology Transfer Fellowship Program in TTIPO. Luis has now joined Bionovation consulting firm located in Mexico, an innovation agency focused on developing prosperity through technological innovation based on life sciences. Specifically, he will be in charge of managing technology transfer related activities. Luis holds a PhD in Biomedical Science from the University of Sheffield (United Kingdom), where he studied bone regeneration using the zebrafish as an alternative model. In addition to research experience, he enjoys science from an application point of view, which sparked his interest in technology transfer related topics.



Bach Nguyen has joined the NIAID Division of AIDS and its Office of Policy and Clinical Operations. Previously, he was a TTIPO Technology Transfer Fellow. While at TTIPO he mostly worked to support the Laboratory of Malaria Immunology and Vaccinology in its research in malaria and COVID-19. Prior to joining TTIPO, He obtained his JD at the University of Maryland Carey School of Law, and my BA in Philosophy and Biological Sciences at Carnegie Mellon University.



Elizabeth Pitts has joined the ORISE TT fellowship at TTIPO. Liz completed her postdoctoral research in the laboratory of Dr. Mark Ferris at the Wake Forest School of Medicine where her research focused on the mechanisms that mediate adolescent vulnerability to substance abuse disorders and the long-term neurochemical and behavioral effects of adolescent nicotine use. While at Wake Forest, Liz served as a Business Development Intern for 6 months at Wake Forest Innovations where she got her first taste of technology transfer work. During that time, Liz evaluated inventions, performed prior art searches, prepared marketing materials, identified potential private sector licensees, and reviewed CDAs and MTAs. Since then, Liz has continued to significantly expand her technology transfer expertise through her work at TTIPO.



Geoffrey E. Ravilious joined the NIAID TTIPO in February 2021 as a Technology Transfer and Patent Specialist. He comes from the National Cancer Institute Cancer Therapy Evaluation Program (CTEP) where he served as a Regulatory Affairs Manager and a Clinical Program Analyst where he provided regulatory support and IND management for a portfolio of NCI-sponsored clinical protocols. From 2014 – 2018, he held several technology transfer specialist positions in federal agencies, including the US Navy's medical R&D technology transfer office and the NCI technology transfer center (TTC) as a fellow in the Fredrick Unit. He holds a BS in chemistry from the University of North Carolina – Wilmington and a PhD in biophysics from Washington University in St. Louis.



Summer Young has joined the NIH Branch of OGC to advise on IP and technology transfer matters. Summer received a BA in chemistry and biology from Johns Hopkins University. She earned a PhD. in pharmacology from Vanderbilt University and her JD from the Vanderbilt University Law School. After graduation, Summer was an associate attorney with Stites & Harrison, a law firm in Nashville. At her firm, Summer prepared and prosecuted patent applications, conducted interviews with examiners at the USPTO and reviewed intellectual property as part of due diligence in corporate transactions. Summer is admitted to the USPTO. She is also a named inventor on a US patent and is a coauthor on several scientific articles.



Fei Zhao joined NCI TTC as a CRTA fellow in February. He is currently supporting laboratories in NCI's Center for Cancer Research and NIDA, one of the NIH ICs supported by TTC. Fei earned his PhD from the University of Arizona in Cancer Biology. After completion of his PhD, he joined Duke University for his first postdoctoral fellowship where he was an inventor on two patents and authored several manuscripts. Prior to joining TTC, Fei was an IRTA fellow at the NIEHS in Research Triangle, North Carolina. He is also a recent Alumni of the 2020 class of the Technology Transfer Ambassadors Program (TTAP).