

BGSU, MUO & UT Researchers:

The sharing of the results of scientific investigation or invention, such as through publications, seminars, and even casual conversations (a “Disclosure”), can have an important impact on intellectual property (IP) rights. For patentable information, such a Disclosure prior to a patent filing can **preclude** any foreign protection and can set up an automatic one-year “bar date” during which time a patent **must** be filed, or all IP rights are lost. Clearly, the safest course of action is to prepare individual Disclosure agreements between and among individuals at MUO, BGSU and UT who are sharing patentable information.

Below, please find a pdf of the Master Confidential Disclosure Agreement among MUO, BGSU and UT, which creates a procedure to file a very simple Confidential Information Transmittal Form (“CIT Form”), which assures that scientific conversations, experiments and results shared between researchers at two different institutions will not become Disclosures, thus preserving any IP rights.

[Note that the form is very simple, and after the information provider and recipient have provided a title and signed, either may forward the form to either Office of Research, where the transaction will be finalized.]