Current activities of CASTI

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Center for Advanced Science and Technology Incubation, Ltd. (CASTI)
Why CASTI?
(deal with inventions in national universities)

- Government / private owned?
  --> Invention Committee decides
  --> Unknown, takes time, bothersome...not functional!

- Over 80% of inventions owned privately

- Trouble and cost for private IP management
  (nomination of patent attorney, cost of patent filing, examination, license negotiation, etc)

- Transferred directly from researchers to companies
Facts. 1
No. of Inventions from University in Japan and the U.S.A. ‘96)

- Japan : 448 (submitted No. to “Invention Committee”)
- U.S. : 10,000

Source: the Ministry of Education ‘98

Facts. 2
Owner Ratio (Government / Private) decided at “Invention Evaluation Committee” ‘96

- Government : Private = 15 : 85

Source: the Ministry of Education ‘98
Problems in Direct Transfer

- Unclear relations between university researchers and companies
- Invention value is not maximized in market
  - Worst case: just lying unused in companies
Government’s Challenge

- **Science and Technology Basic Plan (‘96)**
  develop the scheme for patent filing, examining, and maintaining to accelerate private sector’s utilization of Invention based on univ. research

- **Technology Transfer Law (‘98)**
  authorizes the establishment of technology licensing offices (TLOs) with authority to patent and transfer university inventions

- **Policies for Industrial Revitalization (‘99)**
  technological innovation and its transfer to industry & creation of new business and venture business
CASTI’s Profile

- CASTI = Center for Advanced Science and Technology Incubation, Ltd.
- Shareholder: Researchers of the Univ. of Tokyo
- 3 Licensing Associates (2 patent attorneys), 2 assistants
- Marketing Agent: RECRUIT Co., LTD.
Tech-transfer by CASTI

Creating market value through CASTI

1. **Stock** (Identifying inventions)
   - Transfer
   - Royalty distribution
     - A) researcher
     - B) lab
     - C) department
     - D) university

2. **Process** (Patent application)
   - By CASTI
   - License
   - Royalty
     - A) up-front
     - B) running

3. **Sell** (Marketing)
   - To Market
Identifying inventions (=Stock)

- Disclosed inventions from university researchers: 150
  - Biotech: 55%, Erectoronics & Devices: 25%, New Materials: 15%, Mechanical: 5%
- Not only from Univ. of Tokyo, but from other universities
- Evaluation → Internaly & speedy
Patent Application (=Process)

- Filed patents: 60 (including on the processing)
  - Biotech: 55%, Erectoronics & Divices: 25%, New Materials: 15%, others: 5%
- Strict quality control
Licensing (=Sell)

- Prior disclosure to member companies (max. 3 months)
- Rifle shot marketing
- Tie up with RECRUIT Co., Ltd.
Membership System

- **Privileges (= full service)**
  - Prior disclosure of patent info.
  - Various consulting (Liaison, Legal support, etc.)
  - Invitation to symposiums & seminars
  - Newsletters

- **Dealing with legal matters** (Tie up with Intellectual Property Department, RCAST)
Faculty members network
=“CASTI Douyu-kai”

- Shareholding organization by researchers, Univ. of Tokyo
- Covering 80% over in RCAST, and increasing in other research centers and faculties
Other Activities

- **Supporting the Entrepreneurs**
  - eg. “Effector Cell Institute” (Professor from Institute of Medical Science, Univ. of Tokyo)
  - Providing support services (=NETWORK CORE of Fund, Labo space, Management, Marketing, etc.)

- **Technology Transfer Consulting**
  - Introducing appropriate researchers to companies
  - Supporting University-Company joint research
Request form University Researchers (eg.)

- Companies’ “real evaluation” on research results
- Set up the appropriate value on inventions (*I wonder companies are exploiting my inventions…..*)
- Utilize government owned patents invented under the national research grant
- Start up their own venture companies
Requests from Industries (eg.)

- One stop shopping for university-industry liaison
- First refusal right to the research results / inventions under sponsored research
- University researchers pro-patent mind
Forecast

- More No. of disclosed inventions than originally expected
- Emerging of entrepreneurship in university researchers
- More companies utilizing CASTI (clear purpose of univ.-industry liaison)
- More and more needs to univ.-industry liaison & tech-transfer
Problems

- Installed in board of directors of venture companies
- Enlightenment of pro-patent mind in university researchers
- Deal with patents owned by National Government
- Gap between basic research in university and applied development in industry
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