

April 3, 2009

From Dr. Jan P. Nyrop

Subject: Cornell's Limited Exception Policy for Plant Breeders

Dear Colleagues,

Bob Buhrman, Alan Paau and I have completed a policy for guiding development requests for exceptions from the standard University policy on inventions and property rights. The purpose of these requests is to direct income from intellectual property back to plant breeding programs. The Senior Vice Provost for Research (SVPR) will consider granting limited exceptions upon submission of a written petition by the leader, the principal breeder, of any individual plant-breeding program within CALS. This petition must be accompanied by the written endorsement of the CALS Dean, or official designate of the Dean, in this case, the Senior Associate Dean, and by specific supporting documentation. The scope of this Limited Exception, the procedure by which it will be established for each plant breeding program, and the general practice that Cornell will employ in managing its plant breeding intellectual property and distributing licensing income, are set forth in the policy.

If there are questions concerning the policy I would be happy to meet with your faculty to discuss the policy. However, I ask that some coordination be made so that we meet as a group rather than repeating the same meeting for a series of small groups. If you have specific questions I am of course happy to answer them directly.

Best wishes,

Jan

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