CHARTING FUTURE DIRECTIONS

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Goals

• Current situation on IP rights in R&D community in Slovakia
• How to improve of awareness of IP?
• Education
  - University education
  - Courses, workshops
  - Projects, grants
• Policy issue
• Conclusion
Current situation on IP rights in R&D community in Slovakia

- In previous lecture of my colleague, the situation at the Comenius University was described. Most of the facts can be applied generally on research community in Slovakia.
- Best situation - there is tradition of patenting in chemistry – relatively well developed chemical industry - processes in synthesis.
- Less in pharma.
- Many employees of IPO including the presidents are originally graduated in chemistry.
Current situation on IP rights in Life Sciences

- Completely different situation is in Life Sciences
- There is no tradition of patenting
- Almost zero of awareness of IP
- Science is not Industry (Name of our Patent Office)
- The structure of patents from Slovak authors – the chemistry has much higher in comparison with life sciences and biotechnology
How to improve awareness of IP?

- University Education
- Courses, workshops
- Projects, grants
- Biotech Industry
- Technology Transfer as a source for Universities and Research Institutes
Relevant Universities

• Comenius University in Bratislava
• Slovak University of Technology in Brat.
• University of Agriculture in Nitra
• P. J. Šafárik University in Košice
• University of Veterinary Medicine in Košice
• 21 Institutes in Life Sciences

Ministry of Agriculture Research Institutes

• Research Institute for Animal Production  Nitra
• Food Research Institute  Bratislava
• Research Institute of Veterinary Medicine  Košice
• Research Institute of Plant Production  Piešťany
Biotech Industry

- **Large Companies**
  - Biotika, Fermas

- **Medium Companies**
  - Imuna Pharm Holding, AZOTER

- **Small Companies**
  - Danubeclone, DNAtest, Slovgen, Fytofarm
Successful story of patenting

United States Patent

Zavada et al.

Patent Number: 5,387,676
Date of Patent: Feb. 7, 1995

Inventors: Jan Zavada; Silvia Pastorekova; Jaromir Pastorek, all of Bratislava, Czechoslovakia
Assignee: Ciba Corning Diagnostics Corp., Medfield, Mass.
Appl. No.: 964,589
Filed: Oct. 21, 1992

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Biotech Patents from Industry

• Biotika a.s. more as 20
• Fermas Ltd. owned by Degusa A.G. protected by EPO patents
• Azoter Ltd.- patented strains
Policy making in IP

• **Knowledge based economy**
  – Vice-premier for knowledge based economy Dr. Caplovic was former vice-president of SAS

• **Challenge** – there is phase for new programs in financing R&D and visions for 10-15 years

• **Building of National Center for Innovations**
  – Rectors and directors – must realize the sources from tech, transfer much more important income

• **Support to SMEs in biotechnology**
Conclusion

• It is necessary to increase awareness in IP among scientific community
• It is necessary to improve education
• We need increase support for IP from decision makers, to use governmental and EU structural funds
**Future:**

- R&D is asymmetrically distributed

- Absence in Banska Bystrica – in spite the activities in education on IP

WIPO activity qat Universities – on voluntary bases

There should be professional full time position….

Most of patents attorneys are in Bratislava – they can help under other programs…
Thank you for your attention