Policy

University Policy SR-04.01-05/14

Policy Title: Student Intellectual Property

Originator: Dr. Richard Podemski

Responsible Office: Research and Sponsored Programs

Reason for Policy/Purpose:

To set forth UWF policy concerning student intellectual property.

Policy Statement:

It has been the practice and policy of the University of West Florida to nurture and advance student research and academic achievement and to support the dissemination of knowledge. This policy is intended to provide guidance concerning the ownership of intellectual property created by a student at University of West Florida.

Student Intellectual Property Rights and Responsibilities

Set forth below are rights and responsibilities regarding intellectual property created as a student at the University of West Florida.

General Rule. Generally, intellectual property (such as theses, dissertations, inventions, discoveries, creations and new technologies) conceived or first reduced to practice by a student at The University of West Florida ("University") as a work product (including homework assignments, laboratory experiments, special and independent study projects) will be owned by the student. The University does not claim ownership of such intellectual property except in unusual circumstances.

Students are required to provide the University with a non-exclusive license to archive and make accessible, in all forms of media, student theses and dissertations as provided in the Rights and Permissions Statement maintained by the University of West Florida Graduate School.

Intellectual property conceived or first reduced to practice by a graduate student serving as an employee of the University will be owned, and the proceeds of any commercialization shall be distributed, as provided for other staff and faculty of the University in the University's Intellectual Property Policy.

Special Situations. Situations may occur in certain courses where students are presented with the opportunity to participate in projects or activities in which the ownership of any resulting intellectual

property must be assigned either to the University or to a sponsoring entity (such as a company) as a condition of the student's participation. Students are never obligated to participate in projects or activities that require the assignment of the student's intellectual property to the University or to another entity. In these situations students will always be presented with two options: 1) to participate in projects or activities that do not require the student to assign their intellectual property or 2) to participate in projects or activities that require the student to assign their intellectual property.

The student's grade and/or evaluation of performance in the course will not be affected by the student's decision to participate or not to participate in projects or activities requiring the assignment of the student's intellectual property.

Students should understand that an assignment of intellectual property is voluntary on their part but once executed is a binding legal agreement.

Authority and Related Documents: UWF Policy SR-02.01-07/13 Intellectual Property.

APPROVED: Dr. Judith A. Bense, President Date: 5/27/14

History: Adopted May 2014.