Section 1. Goals and Accomplishments

Goal 1: National research prominence: Complement research with strong industrial relationships to foster recognition as a top public research university

- Executed five (5) license agreements and an additional option agreement for intellectual property developed at TTU and TTUHSC.
- Increased the number of invention disclosures submitted to the OTTIP by ten (10) percent.
- Saw a significant increase in material transfer agreements and confidentiality agreements resulting from increased collaboration and interaction with various institutions and private sector organizations.

Goal 2: Engagement: Support service and economic development programs of benefit to the community and region.

- Held several internal awareness seminars regarding patent law, entrepreneurism, and operating policies.
- Complimented technology transfer as a function of the institution with increased ties to the community through involvement with the Lubbock Regional Bioscience Initiative.
- Continued to work with WesTech Ventures, I, LP, to develop a total of four portfolio companies, all having some tie to the institution.


- Despite the loss of direct funding from several sources, the OTTIP was able to recover over 88% of its legal expenditures for the year, including recovery of several years of outstanding fees owed by partners in commercialization.
- Worked with an outside consultant to review existing structure, personnel and policies for the purpose of growing the technology transfer function - both in personnel and budget.
- Participated closely with several sponsored research agreements to represent and leverage the intellectual property positions of the institution.

Goal 4: Accountability: Strengthen the performance, assessment and accountability of the Office.

- Through a consulting arrangement, identified crucial success factors to be measured and addressed, including the addition of key business development personnel.
- Extended visibility within certain colleges by recruiting Associate Deans for Research for helping identify key developments.
- Increased the level of scrutiny on filing patent applications to result in a 24% reduction in patent expenses despite a ten (10) percent increase in disclosure activity.
Section 2. Universal Quantitative Data

There are no Universal Quantitative Data for this area/unit.
OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Area/Unit Specific Information

Section 3a. Quantitative Information

There is No Area Specific Data in Calendar Year Section.
There is No Area Specific Data in Fall Section.
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Section 3b. Qualitative Information.
There is no qualitative information for the current year.
Section 4. Strategic Planning Update.

There is no strategic plan update for the current year.

Commentary:
The Office of Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property (OTTIP) managed to maintain and grow upon its relationships with the private sector. Although many positive developments occurred, the OTTIP was forced to adjust to several developments outside the institution to become more efficient and more cautious. Loss of a key outside funding source required that the OTTIP fund a majority of outside legal expenses on its own. Further scrutiny on filing patent applications resulted in less patents being filed. Increased demands on the Office prevented faculty and researchers from receiving complete representation on matters of technology transfer and intellectual property protection. The result was that an outside consultant was brought in to address the state of the OTTIP and the direction in moving forward. Many positive things developed that will allow for the OTTIP to structure a growth strategy to address the key needs and functions of technology transfer in an emerging research institution.

Implementation Plan:
To address key needs as illustrated by the Office as well as by an outside consultant, the OTTIP will be adding an additional business development professional, as well as standardizing its budget to become internally funded and, eventually, a profit center. There remains an ever-increasing awareness and demand by faculty for technology transfer/commercialization. Addressing the capabilities of the institution to (1) manage and protect its intellectual property effectively, (2) leverage its portfolios to ensure revenue generation, and (3) develop the appropriate relationships through precision outreach is crucial to developing a profit center. Once additional business development capability is addressed through personnel, a budget that is reflective of the level of innovation (through an increasing research base) is required. Over the past three years, expenditures have declined from lack of funding, causing the OTTIP to relinquish key intellectual property positions. There is a significant delay in realization of income in technology commercialization. Patience and risk mitigation through long-term strategy is crucial for the success of a young and emerging enterprise function.