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**Intellectual Property Policy**  
**National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis (NIMBioS)**

The approach to managing intellectual property (IP) resulting from the activities of NIMBioS (the “Center”) is based on the intention to disseminate research results as broadly as practical and the use of proven technology transfer methods. The purpose of stating this policy is to ensure that an adequate framework exists for establishing, disseminating and transferring IP that is developed through the activities of the Center. The primary elements of this IP policy for the activities in the Center are:

1. Intellectual Property Ownership and Protection

The Center operates under Cooperative Agreement No. EF-0832858 between the University of Tennessee and the National Science Foundation. There will be participation by various other entities, including other universities, non-profits, government agencies, and private industry, and personnel from these entities in the activities of the Center. Either UT or UT’s designated agent for managing IP, the University of Tennessee Research Foundation (UTRF), will work with the technology transfer or other representatives managing IP from the other entities, whose personnel are developers of IP arising under or resulting from the activities in or at the Center (“Center IP”), to manage such Center IP. These activities will be in accordance with and subject to NSF policy, including policy regarding patents and inventions (including 37 CFR 401 et seq.) and rights to copyrightable material.

The general view will be that inventorship and/or authorship will establish ownership of Center IP between the participating entities. All Center IP, including, but not limited to inventions, creations, computer software, computer code and data and/or data sets and new methodologies used to create the former, is required to be and will be disclosed by the individual participants to the Center administration and their home entity. As provided in the preceding paragraph, UT or UTRF will negotiate in good faith with the other entities whose personnel are developers of Center IP.

While patenting of intellectual property is more often a key strategy in its protection and potential commercialization and such strategy may be used for Center IP, as appropriate there may be other Center IP, such as the software and data, whose sharing or utilization would benefit the public and may be shared as provided below, at the discretion of the Center.

UT does not, and will not, claim by virtue of this policy any right, title, or interest in (a) any issued or pending patents or any copyrights owned or controlled by another entity or (b) any previous invention, computer software, data, process, or product of a participant or participant’s home entity, whether or not patented or patentable.

2. Dissemination of Research Results

To the extent possible and as determined by the Center administration, the general guideline for access to Center IP and any other IP or other research results developed during or resulting from the activities of the Center, (including the activities of UT personnel and other Center participants) will be through “open access.” This may be accomplished by posting on and distributing through Center web sites as well as the usual paths, such as scientific peer-reviewed journals, presentations at conferences and expositions, etc.

Public release and dissemination through Center web sites, for example, will take into account the policies and requirements of the employing entities of the participants involved in the creation of the results of the activities of the Center. If required, it is the goal that such employing entities will grant the Center the rights needed (e.g, ownership, royalty-free licenses with the right to sublicense) to, at a minimum, provide open publication and presentation of results of Center activities.

This policy will be displayed on the Center web site and all applicants for participation in Center activities will be informed of the policy prior to their participation.