MSU Technologies announces new licensing staff

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EAST LANSING, Mich. — Two new technology managers recently joined the MSU Technologies (MSUT) staff at Michigan State University.

Ray DeVito was most recently director of the technology commercialization office at Utah State University, Logan, Utah, where he licensed and commercialized technologies and facilitated university spin-out companies. Prior to that, he held key leadership positions at medical equipment development companies and successfully launched a start-up business. A Michigan State University alumnus, he holds a doctorate in experimental nuclear physics from MSU and a bachelor’s degree in physics from Rutgers University.

Ray will work with the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory, Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, Colleges of Engineering and Natural Science, and other campus units.

Randy Ramharack was recently named to a full-time position at MSUT, after serving in a contract position. Randy brings a solid combination of higher education and private sector experience to MSU. Previously, he worked as a technology transfer manager at Wayne State University where he successfully secured grant funding and licensed technologies and, before that, as an associate research fellow and scientist at Pfizer Global Research and Development in Ann Arbor, in the commercially successful cardiovascular diseases section. He holds a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry from McGill University and master’s and doctoral degrees in biochemistry from Queen’s University.

In addition to working with the Colleges of Human, Osteopathic, and Veterinary Medicine, Randy will work with the College of Natural Science and other academic areas.

“I am very pleased to welcome these seasoned licensing professionals to the MSUT staff,” says Charles Hasemann, interim director of MSU Technologies. “Their combined university and corporate experiences will bring valuable new dimensions to the way that we can interface MSU’s great innovations with potential licensees.”
Ray and Randy join technology managers Kari Haldenwanger, Tom Herlache, and Brad Shaw in managing MSU’s intellectual property portfolio and facilitating the licensing and commercialization of inventions.

“We have a very diverse set of educational and career backgrounds among our MSUT licensing staff,” adds Hasemann, “that maps well to the equally diverse research that goes on at MSU. It is exciting to know that we are growing our capacity to bring university innovations to market through these talented individuals.”

Each college and department on campus has a primary point of contact within MSUT, with some adjustments being made as the group welcomes Ray and Randy. Faculty members and researchers can go online to find an updated list of technology manager assignments.

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MSU Technologies, Michigan State University’s technology transfer and commercialization office, manages MSU’s intellectual property portfolio and facilitates the commercial development and public use of technologies and copyrightable material developed by university researchers.

Michigan State University has been advancing knowledge and transforming lives through innovative teaching, research, and outreach for more than 150 years. MSU is known internationally as a major public university with global reach and extraordinary impact. Its 17 degree-granting colleges attract scholars worldwide who are interested in combining education with practical problem solving.

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