



Stanford eCorner

The Big Ones

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Video URL: <http://ecorner.stanford.edu/videos/1293/The-Big-Ones>

Ku talks about some of the big licenses to come out of Stanford University since the beginning of the Office of Technology Licensing.



Transcript

We started in 1970, so we're about 35 years old. The FM sound synthesis was our first big invention, I would say. This came out of the music department and we've been really proud for a long time that one of our biggest inventions came out of the music department. It happens to be a chip, an FM chip. It's a sound chip that Yamaha licensed and was put into a lot of electronic musical instruments. But probably one of those chips is in your cellphone and making those beautiful ringing sounds that you hear. The next big invention was the recombinant DNA invention that really put us on the map. It is a very basic technology for recombinant DNA cloning and it generated \$255 million for University of California and for Stanford. So that was our first big winner. It was invented in 1974.

We started our licensing program in around 1981. It expired in 1997. And so we are talking long timeframe. Because I'm assuming this is an engineering crowd, fiber optic amplifiers. We have a basic amplifier patent that was invented in around 1982 and the patent just expired but it's generated what? Twenty some million dollars that came out of the physics lab. Again, it takes a very, very long time for these inventions to make money. The next big invention is a 1984 invention, functional antibodies. It's another big winner for us. It's our second big winner. It's generated so far, \$61 million but it still has some patent life so we're hoping that it will generate a lot more and be a big winner for us.

This covers antibodies and antibodies is a new kind of drug that's coming out in the biotech industry. So again, because you're probably science-based, I did want to point out MINOS up in 1981. It's a software program coming out of the optimization systems lab, not patented it just software, very robust software licensed extensively. And it's generated \$3.2 million. It's non-exclusively licensed. And it's still an important software program. And you would think that software gets obsolete overtime. And this one is so robust, so big that it's still a really good software program for us. DSL 1990-1992, came out of EE and our professor started a company. We licensed it to the startup.

The startup was acquired. That company was acquired. So now, Texas Instruments has its license for a DSL, a symmetric digital subscriber line technology. And then of course, everybody has heard of Google. We licensed Google and the equity was liquidated in this fiscal year. So I don't exactly know how much yet. But it will be a big winner for us. So we're always looking for the next big thing. Cumulative big picture, we've generated over \$643 million in royalty income, because DNA brought in \$255 million, so non DNA is \$388 million. So that's really good.

We're focused on a non DNA stuff these days. And we've given over \$35 million to the Dean of Research, my boss.