

AUGUST 2011



IPR AND ENTREPRENEUR- SHIP

THE PROCESS

The summer school was designed as an intensive one-week course. First, students were introduced to patent commercialization. Thereafter, students were presented selected patents by lecturers, so as to gain a more profound understanding of the complexity of patents. Students were then divided into groups where they worked with a specific patent. Students then met with business managers and a lawyer who guided them through the process of working with patents. Students proceeded with idea generation, innovation methods and business development, including deployment of the Business Model Canvas method. The final phase of the summer school consisted of business development with a focus on customer base and value creation. The course concluded with students making a sales pitch, followed by an oral examination.

FACTS

Course: Summer School 2011 in Patent Commercialization and Entrepreneurship
 Course Organiser: Nano-Science Professor Morten Meldal, in collaboration with Katapult
 Participants: Master's students from UCPH, as well as other international students
 Duration: 1 week (2,5 ECTS)
 Facilitators: Rikke Korsten Okholm (Katapult), Nina Riis (Katapult) and Peter Ottesen (Katapult)

In August 2011, 14 Master's students from the Faculty of Science were given access to a range of UCPH patents that could be used for a variety of purposes. With the UCPH patents as a point of departure, the students worked with methods to commercialise research (patent commercialization) and recognise opportunities for business development.

The challenge was twofold. Firstly, students needed to understand a patent's technical aspects. Secondly, they had to identify the patent's commercialization and business potential. The students underwent an intensive one-week course during which they attended lectures and presentations from businesses. Concurrently, the students gave a series of their own presentations and participated in various workshops.

THE RESULT

One of the groups worked with a patented technology that was used to develop biodegradable materials with plastic properties. Use of this technology could result in ground breaking, sustainable products. The students developed an idea to create biodegradable knives and forks that might be used at festivals, for example. Disposable cutlery is typically used at festivals. So, by making it biodegradable, the environmental effects and pure trash produced at festival sites could be mitigated.