**Letter from Jennifer**

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members,

It's hard to believe we are almost half way through the year! BVGH is making good progress toward achieving our 2015 WIPO Re:Search objectives and deliverables. We recently reviewed and altered how we count WIPO Re:Search agreements. This change resulted in a few agreements shifting from two separate agreements into one advancing agreement. Due to this change, the number of agreements has decreased to 86. We believe this more accurately captures not only our Members' research endeavors, but will correctly capture the proportion of research projects that advance to new stages of development. If you have any questions about how we are counting agreements or ideas to make our statistics more meaningful, please contact Katy Graef.

I am pleased to welcome our newest Member, the University of Bamenda.

As always, please forward this Snapshot to your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

*Sincerely,*  
Jennifer Dent  
President, BVGH

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**Special Announcement**

Congratulations to Sanofi and Novartis for winning the [2015 Patents for Humanity](#) award for medicine! This year's award recognizes Novartis and Sanofi's anti-tuberculosis and anti-malaria efforts, respectively.

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**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**
To view a current summary of the WIPO Re:Search agreements by disease and stage of development, click here.

Click here to view a complete list of WIPO Re:Search Members.

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**Cornerstones of Collaboration**

Researchers from the University of Calgary and PATH published the results of their WIPO Re:Search collaboration. Through this collaboration, the researchers evaluated the use of PATH’s non-instrumented nucleic acid amplification (NINA) heater with a LAMP-based malaria diagnostic assay, using patient samples from Ethiopia. Click here to read the paper.

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**New Member Announcement**

We are pleased to announce that the University of Bamenda has joined WIPO Re:Search.

Located in the heart of Cameroon, the University of Bamenda is one of eight state universities in the country. Research occurring at the University includes evaluating drug regimens for tuberculosis and analyzing transmission of the causative agent of onchocerciasis.

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**Partnership Hub Central**

Jennifer Dent attended the 2015 Milken Institute Global Conference in Los Angeles, CA. During the event, which included sessions on accelerating medical research, mHealth, and the economic impact of the Ebola virus disease crisis in West Africa, Jennifer met with representatives from Pfizer, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Sanofi, The Milken Institute, and executives from various industries with an interest in collaborating to improve global health.

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**Funding Announcement**
Indo-U.S. Vaccine Action Program

The goal of the Vaccine Action Program (VAP) is to support collaborative, vaccine-related research projects that ultimately reduce the burden of infectious diseases of importance in India, the U.S., the South Asian region, and globally. Applications are encouraged from organizations/institutions that propose to conduct vaccine-related research through U.S./Indo collaborations on the following: dengue, influenza (including avian influenza), malaria, enteric diseases, HIV/AIDS, and tuberculosis. Basic, translational, clinical, or epidemiological vaccine research may be proposed. Clinical trials will not be supported by this initiative.

**Funding amount:** Up to $50,000/year for two years  
**Funder:** US National Institutes of Health (NIH)  
**Deadline:** Applications are due on Feb 16th, Jun 16th, and Oct 16th annually until May 2016.  
**Eligibility:** Open to US-based organizations or an Indian organization collaborating with a US-based researcher

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**Highlighted Contributions**

Featured this month are two contributions submitted by Pfizer to the WIPO Re:Search Database.

**Nucleic acid construct (ID: 961)**

Pfizer has provided patents and patent applications relating to a nucleic acid construct useful for expressing vaccine antigens.

**Nucleic acid-coated particles (ID: 941)**

Provided are patents and pending patent applications relating to nucleic acid-coated particles useful for the delivery of DNA-based vaccines.

For more information or to discuss potential collaborations regarding this technology, please contact Roopa Ramamoorthi or Ujwal Sheth.

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**WIPO Re:Search In the News**

WIPO Re:Search was mentioned in the 2015 Special 301 Report, which was published by the United States Trade Representative. The Report highlights WIPO Re:Search as one of two “innovative mechanisms that enable government and private sector rights holders to donate or license pharmaceutical patents […] in support of public policy goals.” Click [here](#) to download the full Report.
### Upcoming Global Health Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Web Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 24-28</td>
<td>14th Conference of the International Society of Travel Medicine</td>
<td>Québec City, Canada</td>
<td>Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 15-18</td>
<td>2015 BIO International Convention</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td>Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 26-31</td>
<td>Gordon Research Conference: Translating Malaria Research to the Field</td>
<td>Girona, Spain</td>
<td>Website</td>
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*Known as EMD in the US and Canada | **Known as Merck in the US and Canada

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