

**DATE:** January 20, 2020

**FROM:** Dr. Scot Hulbert  
Associate Dean for Research  
CAHNRS Office of Research  
&  
Dr. Sita Sailaja Pappu  
Assistant Vice President, Office of Commercialization

**TO:** Dr. Stephen Hines  
Chair, Faculty Affairs Committee  
WSU Faculty Senate

**SUBJECT:** Faculty manual revisions to Sections IV.G. Patent Policy & IV.J.  
Trademarks

**BACKGROUND:** Washington State University (WSU) develops and releases plant varieties and cultivars through the College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS). Historically these releases have been commercially successful and generated revenue that is distributed according to the faculty manual distribution policies. Faculty Manual policy allows a portion of revenue to be shared with the breeders that developed the plant variety. With the breeding programs maturing to the next level of development and with the original varieties commercially released becoming the source for the next generation varieties (Varieties Protected by Patents or PVPs), there is a need to streamline the process of varietal development, testing, release and revenue sharing by establishing guidelines for these processes and to determine the contribution of original varieties into the development of PVPs to properly recognize the contribution and effort by the researchers that developed the original varieties and associated trademarks. As the programs evolve, the distribution guidelines are established through discussions with the breeders and are dynamically updated and maintained within the Office of Commercialization and CAHNRS Office of Research.

**PROPOSED REVISIONS:** Attached marked-up version reflects the dynamic nature of these guidelines and memorializes the locations where they can be obtained. In addition, clarifications are made to the distribution policies for unprotected varieties and biological materials.

**ATTACHMENTS:** 1. Current Language in Faculty Manual Sections IV.G. 8, 9a-c. & IV.J.  
2. Redline version of Faculty Manual Sections IV.G.8, 9a-c. & IV.J.