



LESI Committees:

End of Year Report for the 2026 International Management and Delegates Meeting (IMDM) – 26 April 2026

Submitted: 16th of April 2026

Committee Name Technology Transfer Committee (TTC)

Chairs and Vice Chairs Co-Chairs: Saara Inkinen, Giacomo Garbagnati

 Vice-Chairs: Lourdes Tejero, Kathleen De Belder, Jennifer Gottwald

LESI Board Liaison Peter Ling

Next committee meeting and interactive discussion session:

- June 9, 2026: Interactive discussion session on “Artificial Intelligence and Intellectual Property – Navigating opportunities and challenges in a transformative era”, confirmed speaker (committee member) Subodh K. Kumar, moderator Saara Inkinen.

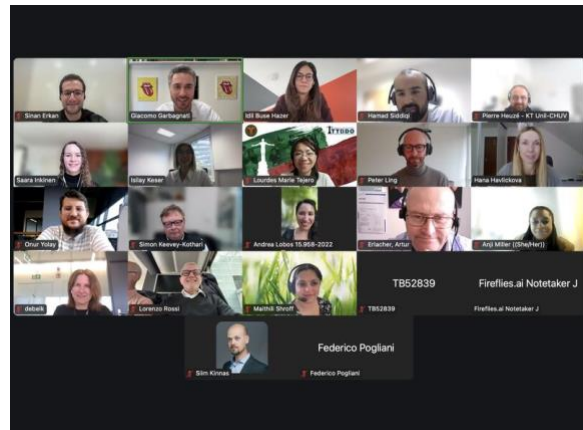
About the interactive discussion sessions of the Technology Transfer Committee (TTC):

Technology transfer is a highly collaborative field involving complex interactions and transactions between stakeholders, often across the globe. The thematic and professional diversity of the field makes cross-disciplinary dialogue and sharing of best practices crucial for success. To facilitate these interactions is one of the core tasks of the Technology Transfer Committee (TTC): it functions as a focal point for the diverse community of experts within technology transfer and promotes global knowledge exchange in the field. The popular bimonthly interactive discussion sessions organized by the TTC, along with its regular committee meetings, provide a platform for a professional discourse and offer concrete and useful snapshots into topical issues and trends.

The 2025-2026 term started with a kick-off meeting on 12 Aug 2025 to present the new leadership and our aims for the year, as well as to encourage member participation.

Interactive discussion sessions held in the bimonthly committee meetings:

- **14 October 2025, Tech Transfer “alla Turca”: National and Regional Perspectives**: The 30 min presentation focused on different institutional practices of Central and Eastern European technology transfer offices, experiences in university spin-offs, and challenges in financing and licensing R&D. The presentation was followed by an interactive discussion session with Q&A. Speakers: Dr. Sinan Erkan (Adesso, Istanbul Türkiye), Dr. A. Işıl Keser (Wella, formerly Heidelberg TTO- Germany), Dr. İdil B. Kök Hazer (METU(ODTÜ) TTO- Türkiye), coordinated and moderated by Giacomo Garbagnati



- 9 December 2025, Global Perspectives on Trade Secret Management:**

Moderator: Lourdes Marie Tejero, Vice-Chair of the TTC

Presenters: Judith Miller, Australia and Marko Brumnik, Germany

Session description:

This interactive session focused on trade secret management from the perspectives of practitioners from different continents. Trade secrets play a critical role in the successful valorisation of intellectual assets, but their management is sometimes overlooked, although they can provide a strategically flexible and cost-effective way of protection for valuable information.

This session highlighted varying regulations and practices in different countries on how to manage trade secrets. The participants benefited from the sharing of experiences and best practices by the speakers with expertise on the topic, as well as from the insights that were shared by the international participants.

The session was open to all LESI members.

- 17 February 2026, Science to Solutions: Leveraging IP for Collaboration and Commercialization in the US”**

Date and time: the 17th of February 2026, 2:00-2:45pm, followed by a 15 min committee meeting for TTC members.

Moderator: Jennifer Gottwald, Ph.D., CLP, Director of Licensing at WARF, Vice-Chair of the TTC

Speakers: Gillian Fenton, Esq., CLP, Executive director of LST Strategies LLC and Steven Ferguson, CLP, Special Advisor at the NIH Office of Technology Transfer.

The session focused on how US universities and federal labs can collaborate with industry around IP. The speakers shared perspectives and stories from their experience and discuss challenges and best practices that are relevant to the technology transfer community.



- **14 April 2026, Exploring IMPAC3T-IP AI Tools**

The session was moderated and coordinated by Kathleen De Belder.

Session description: Licensing research outputs today requires more flexible, inclusive approaches than traditional patent-focused models allow. The IMPAC3T-IP Toolbox has been developed to meet that need.

This toolbox was launched January this year. To ensure the Toolbox is not just accessible but actively used to its full potential, the IMPAC3T-IP Academy™ acts as a dedicated training and certification pathway. A training session is foreseen in Dublin on April 30 following the LESI2026 meeting.

Take the opportunity to already be introduced to the IMPAC3T-IP AI Tools in this interactive online session with trainers Maria Weir and Sylwia Sekula-Neuner. We aim for a real interactive discussion and ask you to prepare a non-confidential technology description you would like to use with the IP Identification tool.

An interactive Online Discussion organised by the Technology Transfer Committee (TTC) of LESI:



Exploring IMPAC3T-IP AI Tools

Introduction: Licensing research outputs today requires more flexible, inclusive approaches than traditional patent-focused models allow. The IMPAC3T-IP Toolbox has been developed to meet that need, combining document-based resources (such as templates, checklists, and model clauses) with digital tools, including AI-driven assistants, licensing aggregation platforms, and a tool finder engine that helps users navigate complex decision points. To access the Toolbox visit: <https://www.impact3ip.eu/toolbox/>

To ensure the Toolbox is not just accessible but actively used to its full potential, the IMPAC3T-IP Academy™ acts as a dedicated training and certification pathway. With online and in-person sessions. A training session is foreseen in Dublin on April 30 following the LESI2026 meeting.

Why join? Take the opportunity to already be introduced to the IMPAC3T-IP AI Tools in this interactive online session with trainers Maria Weir and Sylwia Sekula-Neuner. We aim for a real interactive discussion and ask you to prepare a non-confidential technology description you would like to use with the IP Identification tool, with the aim to identify assets related to the described technology. This can be a short paragraph describing the technology/project/idea, a report from previous activities, or a publication.

Agenda (2:00 pm–2:45 pm CET):

- Introduction of session — TTC and Sylwia
- IntelligLicensAI (25 min, incl. Q&A) — Maria
- AI-powered IP Identification and Mapping Tool (10 min, incl. short Q&A) — Sylwia

Presenters	Timing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Weir — Strategist in Intellectual Capital & ESG; Founder, ARICC • Sylwia Sekula-Neuner — Innovation Manager, Atrineo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue: Online (Zoom details via TTC) • Date: April 14, 2026 • Time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 2:00 – 2:45 PM CET ◦ 8:00 – 8:45 AM ET ◦ 8:00 – 8:45 PM SGT/PHT

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Plans for future discussion sessions 2026-2027:

- An interactive discussion session on Export control regulations in global technology transfer (planned moderator and main coordinator of the session Giacomo Garbagnati)
- An interactive discussion session or an open webinar (format under discussion) is being planned related to Intangible Assets Valuation & Technology Transfer in Emerging Technologies.
- Many other possible topics have come up during committee meetings or via direct discussions with the members. These are continuously assessed, and the most interesting and useful ones for the community will be selected in due time 2026-2027.

Other activities and initiatives

- The committee Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs have held monthly planning meetings to coordinate the activities and the related tasks.
- In-person Get2Gether at the Annual Conference in Dublin
- Strengthening presence in the USA-Canada region and APAC via vice-chairs
 - New vice chairs, Lourdes Tejero (APAC) and Jennifer Gottwald (US) joined the committee leadership team and have successfully increased our presence and outreach in the regions. They have also organised and coordinated interactive discussion sessions on topic that aimed to facilitate collaboration internationally within the IP industry.
- In 2026-2027, the plan is to continue the tradition of interactive discussion sessions with short presentations in regular committee meetings.
- The committee Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs have actively participated in various in-person meetings of the LESI and other relevant network organisations, for example:
 - Giacomo Garbagnati functioned as a trainer in the LES Italy course: Succeeding at Technology Commercialization and Negotiation in November 2025.

- Saara Inkinen participated as a speaker in the LES Scandinavia Annual Conference 2025 in September 2025. She also presented the mission and aims of the TTC in her speech.
- Giacomo Garbagnati, Saara Inkinen, and Kathleen De Belder actively participated in the Winter Planning Meeting of LESI in Budapest in January 2026.
- Jennifer Gottwald instructed two virtual LES USA & Canada courses: Negotiation Skills Practicum in September 2025 and IP Negotiation Basics in March 2026.
- An article for les Nouvelles on the previously realised Term Sheet Hackathon has been planned and initiated, but it was not yet finalised due to time constraints.
- The committee plans to continue and expand its visibility on LinkedIn, for example in relation to the interactive discussion sessions.
- An article about the Interactive Discussion Session held in February was published in Global News' April 2026 issue.



Annual conference proposals for Dublin 2026:

- Persons associated with the committee submitted four workshop or panel discussion proposals for the Annual Conference in Dublin, one was accepted: Jennifer Gottwald (TTC Vice-Chair): Intentional Innovation – Expanding the Ecosystem for All Participants (roundtable)
- Several committee leaders and members are participating in panel discussions and roundtables during the conference.