





What We Do

The National Academy of Inventors® (NAI) recognizes, encourages, and enhances visibility of academic inventors with patents issued from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, we are comprised of Member Institutions including more than 200 U.S. and international universities, governmental and non-profit research institutes and over 3,000 individual inventor members and Fellows. Together, we serve the public need as experts in investigating, researching, reviewing and providing reports on subjects related to innovation, intellectual property, and translational research.

“The NAI is a breakthrough for our country. It couldn’t be more timely to have an organization like this be championing innovation.” – David Kappos, Former Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Recognition and Visibility

“Now more than ever we need American innovation, which is why we cannot suppress the technology developments created by the National Academy of Inventor’s [institutions] from entering the market.” – Florida Congressman Dennis A. Ross, United States House of Representatives

- NAI Fellowship is the highest professional distinction accorded solely to academic inventors who have demonstrated a prolific spirit of innovation in creating or facilitating outstanding inventions that have made a tangible impact on quality of life, economic development, and the welfare of society. NAI Fellows have generated more than 8,500 licensed technologies and companies and created more than 1.1 million jobs.
- H.R. 976 has been introduced to grant a Federal charter to the NAI. This legislation would federally recognize the importance of the NAI’s mission, goals and objectives, in bettering the welfare of society. The bill would also allow NAI members to be called upon as subject matter experts by any department of the government.
- Sample NAI publications include the *Top 100 Worldwide Universities Granted U.S. Utility Patents* in collaboration with the IPO each year, and the multidisciplinary journal *Technology and Innovation*, which serves as a forum for presenting information on applied sciences, with a focus on transformative technology and academic innovation.

Changing Culture & Creating Community

“In the academic setting, technology transfer is a critical component for facilitating and sparking innovation within universities and helping to connect universities with commercial partners in the community.” Technology transfer can be truly transformational to a university and to the community.” – Paul R. Sanberg, NAI President

- We act as public policy advocates to increase the value of innovation, entrepreneurship and commercialization toward tenure & promotion as these activities lead to sustained economic revival in local communities and worldwide.
- The NAI Annual Conference is held each spring and features stimulating presentations and networking with more than 400 world-renowned inventors. It is a collaborative forum for leadership and an arena for the research community to deliberate on the translation of science and technology.
- NAI Member Institutions are encouraged to launch chapters to celebrate their inventive academic communities. This opportunity is a useful vehicle to recognize and honor investigators who translate their research findings into inventions that may benefit society. A chapter also serves as a tool to celebrate leadership who foster and nurture innovation.