In the course of your research, you may have discovered a potentially valuable invention. Presenting, publishing, or speaking about your invention without the proper protection can endanger your intellectual property rights. The Office of Technology Commercialization at The University of Texas at Austin can help take you through the process in 3 easy steps:

**1. When to File**
- When you've made a potentially patentable invention
- Before you present or publish your discovery (includes poster sessions & abstracts)
- Before you talk about the invention to industry (or anyone outside UT) without a nondisclosure agreement

**2. How to File**
- Visit the OTC website, [https://research.utexas.edu/otc/](https://research.utexas.edu/otc/)
- Look for the Forms for Inventors section
- Complete the appropriate form (Life, Physical, or Software) & email disclosure@otc.utexas.edu

**3. IP Protection**
- Patenting the invention
- A business team to license your invention or help form a startup
- Contacts with VCs, angels, experienced entrepreneurs, large companies, foundations, and others
- End-to-end management of the licensing and royalty collection process

Have a great idea? Don't lose it,