Workshop
“Introduction into patent issues”

Capacity, workshop language
12 participants, English

Synopsis:
During a PhD or later, inventions and patents are certainly not first priority for a university researcher. Nevertheless American Universities recuperate up to 10% of their entire budget from licence fees due to early protection of intellectual property from their researchers.
For a career outside of a university students will find an easier access to research or patent positions within companies if they are knowledgeable about patents. Furthermore knowledge of the patent literature might stimulate and gives additional new impulses for solving problems in basic research, since the predominant amount of scientific information from companies is published in patents and comes later or never to journals. Patents are an important source for information and they fortify protection of ideas and intellectual property.

Goal:
The workshop gives insight into important aspects of patent issues. It will create an elevated awareness by the participants for the subject and should be helpful to recognize, properly process and protect their own invention. At the same time the workshop sensitizes for the difference between publicly and commercially funded research thus supporting the career of the participants and in an optimal case produce added value for the University and the society. The participants will elevate their own power of judgement and should improve on a good balance between commercial aspects of their invention and their main duties towards science.

Content:
- History and overview of today's rules and regulations
- Exercises: Text and content analysis of different patents, Freedom to operate (FTO) analysis, with examples; feature analysis and investigation of validity on prominent examples