**Scenario for CHOP Learn and Connect Discussion**

**Scene 1:** Sally is a tenured clinical professor who is the PI in a CHOP lab. Pat is a post doc working in the lab as well.

The lab is partially funded through an NIH grant and has also received some funding from a private foundation. The lab has been working on several different nanoparticles, all of which absorb radiation, intended for different uses, ranging from a better sunscreen to a drug that can help patients undergoing chemotherapy cope better with their treatment. They have been making steady progress over the last few years, and have published several papers, about one per year.

But now Sally is at an impasse in her research. She meets Marc (tenured clinical prof and PI in a U Penn lab) at a CHOP Learn and Connect function. Through their discussions, they realize that Marc’s research might be complementary to Sally’s, particularly some things he learned before his time at Penn, when he ran a lab at Rival University. They start to collaborate and share lab results.

Sally shares Marc’s research with Pat. Pat sees something in Marc’s lab notebooks from his time at Rival that sparks an idea. Eureka! Pat eventually discovers a way to synthesize a new nanoparticle. It is based on something that exists already in nature but has great promise. Sally would like to discuss their results in an upcoming conference. A potential partner would also like to schedule a meeting to discuss.

**What proactive procedures should Sally consider implementing in her lab to make sure she safeguards IP rights and can prove inventorship? You might consider issues of disclosure, ownership, and inventorship.**

**What are the lab’s options at this point to protect the IP they have generated? What should Sally do next if CHOP decides to patent? If CHOP does not patent?**