Dear researchers,

We are pleased to announce a simplification of the procedure for signature of material transfer agreements (MTAs) with non-profit entities (such as universities, research institutes, etc.):

- These MTAs will from now on be signed by the principal investigator (« responsable de la recherche ») and his/her head of department or section president.
- The review of these MTAs by Unitec becomes optional.
- The UNIGE will be able to accept PDF copies of signed MTAs.
- A copy of each signed MTA will have to be transmitted to Unitec.

Draft MTAs must nevertheless be submitted to Unitec for approval before signature if you identify one of the following risks:

- important restrictions or delays with respect to publication.
- transfer of intellectual property rights relating to your results to the provider of the material
- potentially conflicting terms with pre-existing contracts.
- potential conflict of interest involving the principal investigator.

MTAs with for-profit entities are excluded from this simplification and must be forwarded to Unitec for review before signature by the Vice-rector for technology and knowledge transfer.

Please refer to Unitec’s web site (http://www.unige.ch/unitec/Informations-rechercheurs/mta.html) for more information as well as template agreements for sending and receiving biological materials.

If you have questions or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Unitec (unitec@unige.ch 022 379 03 50).