



Technology Transfer, Innovation and Research Commercialization Process, Intellectual Property

We recognize the vital importance technology transfer and intellectual property professionals play in the research commercialization process. We search to go behind the scenes to bring you detailed, actionable information, best practice, advice with a very specific, single-minded goal: to help you find, develop, license, bring to market your organization's (or your client's) valuable ideas.

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Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Rights

Incubator at Berlin University has boosted the country's lagging start-up community

Over the past years, students, researchers at the Technical University of Berlin have created an average of 33 startups a year, more than double the rate of the past years. The spike is mostly attributed to the 3-year-old TU Berlin Centre for Entrepreneurship, one-stop shop for students, faculty interested in launching tech start-ups ... [continue reading >>>](#)

New studies examine success factors of university start-ups, opinions on a European grace period

The European nonprofit Science|Business Innovation Board has released two studies, one examining the success factors behind university spinoffs, and the other exploring views on a EU grace period for patents ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Czech scientists develop potential OTC flu test that is cheaper, faster

Czech researchers have developed a quick and inexpensive way to diagnose flu patients. Using filter paper equipped with two quantum dots, the test takes a couple of minutes as opposed to current tests, which often take several days ... [continue reading >>>](#)

What you need to know about Europe's new Unitary Patent system

Gwilym Roberts of the UK patent law firm Kilburn & Strode recently posted on *Patently-O* five things patent attorneys and other IP professionals should know about Europe's new Unitary Patent system. First Roberts breaks the system down into two components ... [continue reading >>>](#)

European hospital consortium signs with Paris life sciences park to launch start-ups

In Paris, a recent agreement between the life sciences technology park Biocitech and AP-HP, the largest clinical research center in Europe comprising 30 hospitals, aims to boost the development of new start-ups based on life science research. Under the collaboration, scientists from AP-HP will have access to Biocitech's facilities, while the latter will be granted special rights to the projects and innovations originating in AP-HP ... [continue reading >>>](#)

FL-based company to take Finnish spectral imaging technology to market

Technology acceleration company Open Photonics has partnered with Finland's VVT Technical Research Centre to boost the commercialization of advanced spectral imaging technologies ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Russian acquisition of US-developed, taxpayer-funded battery technology stirs debate

Taxpayer-funded company Ener1 was a poster child for US-developed technology and economic development through innovation, with its state-of-the-art battery technology for electric cars and U.S. military vehicles.

Backed by \$118 million in federal stimulus funds and \$80 million in state and local incentives, top scientists at Argonne National Lab in Illinois had been lauded for leading the way on this important sector of the green energy market.

"This is about the future, and the question is which nation is going to seize the future," said Joe Biden in a speech he gave last year at Ener1's Indiana facilities. "Some nation is going to grab it by the throat.

One of the nations of the world is going to lead the world in green energy and technology" ... [continue reading >>>](#)

As U.S. struggles to regulate equity crowdfunding, Netherlands enjoys a fraud-free platform

As the U.S. brainstorms new laws to keep equity crowdfunding fraud-free, a Netherlands-based crowdfunding platform has been in business for three years and without a single case of fraud.

"The crowd is a great due diligence tool," says Korstiaan Zandvliet, co-founder of the platform Symbid, which has funded 23 startups that have raised a total of over US \$2 million from more than 15,000 unaccredited investors. "They [the investors] actually find out basically everything." ... [continue reading >>>](#)

UK start-up develops coding technology to make embedded info more aesthetically pleasing and fun

A start-up at the University of Nottingham, UK, is developing a potentially groundbreaking method to write computer codes that would enhance user interaction with smart devices. The company, Aestheticodes, designs visually beautiful images and encodes them similarly to the way a QR code works, only the aestheticodes provide a more engaging and playful experience ... [continue reading >>>](#)

European tech companies fear vulnerability to patent trolls under unified patent system

While Europe's new unified patent court promises to make it easier for inventors to file a single patent across 25 countries, European companies are worried that the new system will make them an easier target for patent trolls ... [continue reading >>>](#)

UK investment firm grows university start-up portfolio

Fusion IP, a start-up funding specialist based in Sheffield, UK, plans to grow its portfolio having raised £20 million and signing new agreements with Nottingham and Swansea Universities ... [continue reading >>>](#)

University of Leeds and Procter & Gamble join in new tech transfer venture

The University of Leeds, UK, and consumer goods giant Procter & Gamble (P&G) have entered into an agreement to turn the work of Leeds researchers into new high-tech products. Under the agreement, P&G's Connect+Develop board will identify which Leeds research projects have the potential for commercial success. In addition, researchers are encouraged to approach P&G with new ideas ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Venture Capital & entrepreneurs

Harvard's \$10M Experiment Fund aims to keep entrepreneurial students on campus

Harvard University's Experiment Fund, a pool of roughly \$10 million to help get Harvard-based start-ups off the ground, isn't just designed to back the prestigious school's entrepreneurial undergrads; its backers are Harvard grads themselves. The university itself, however, opted not to participate in the Fund ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Five pitch points angel investors want to hear

Angel investor Brian Cohen gave *CNN Money* a list of things start-up founders need to say (and prove) to angel investors to get them on board. With so many failed startups over the years, angels these days "are much more businesslike -- and more demanding," says Cohen. "Angels also expect a higher level of professionalism in the founders of companies they fund." Here is Cohen's checklist of what today's angels consider need-to-know...[continue reading >>>](#)

VC to start-ups: Never give a pitch without a hook

In another piece of funding advice, VC Charlie O'Donnell says pitching to an investor is "like trying to have a conversation with a three year old." VCs are easily distracted, he says, and can get bored very, very quickly. For this reason, every startup's pitch needs a hook--something that captures the audience's attention immediately ... [continue reading >>>](#)

The Perfect Elevator Pitch: Sell Your IP in 3 Minutes or Less!

Your best chance to break through with an investor often comes in the form of an elevator pitch. Learn how to perfect your pitch and close the deal. ...[continue reading >>>](#)

Crowdfunding for University Start-Ups

It's important for TTOs and start-ups to understand exactly what crowdfunding is, how it works, its real potential, and what the risks and drawbacks are. ...[continue reading >>>](#)

Entrepreneur cites common tech transfer problems and offers solutions for TTOs

In a post on *socialtech*, veteran entrepreneur Ivan Nikkhoo offers a list of common problems and challenges that bedevil tech transfer efforts, and he also provides his prescriptions for overcoming these problems. Nikkhoo says these issues have been keeping TTOs from achieving better results, which he says have been mixed at best ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Georgia Tech launches its own crowdfunding platform for faculty innovators

At the request of one of its own researchers, Georgia Tech has launched its own crowdfunding site for inventors seeking funds to further their research, some of which may lead to commercial ventures and products ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Start-up & spin-off – accelerator

Top University Business Incubators Global Benchmark 2013

This report is the first and only reference to dig deep into the practices of university incubators and provide extensive data and detailed benchmarks. [Click here for details >>](#)

Stanford introduces \$1.2M annual fund to boost start-up activity

A new partnership between Stanford University, Stanford Hospital & Clinics (SHC) and StartX, a nonprofit organization that helps launch Stanford start-ups, is creating a \$1.2 million annual grant fund over the course of three years to fund StartX operations, including the Stanford-StartX Fund to support university tech transfer ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Lean start-up program aims to change the way life science innovations are commercialized

Conventional wisdom says that lean start-up methods are great in some fields, but simply won't work for life sciences companies faced with long time-lines, clinical trials, regulatory approvals, and huge research costs. Businesses developing drugs and other life sciences innovations, the thinking goes, simply don't lend themselves to lean concepts like rapid product iteration or business-model adjustments based on customer feedback ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Start-up accelerators in the Arab world are upping the stakes

Startup accelerators are surfacing rapidly across the Arab world and raising the stakes with increased funding for start-ups and longer incubation periods – a strategy that other incubators around the world may want to consider ... [continue reading >>>](#)

NovoBioPharma to offer mentorship to U Penn life science start-ups in new agreement

Global biopharma company NovoBioPharma and the University of Pennsylvania incubator UPstart have formed a unique collaboration, giving U Penn a new source of mentorship and other support. While most TTOs and incubators struggle to find quality mentors -- often from among alumni -- this collaboration brings mentorship directly from a major corporation. Under the agreement, NovoBioPharma will provide mentorship and strategic direction to chosen life science companies attempting to commercialize their early stage innovations through the UPstart program ... [continue reading >>>](#)

New UChicago start-up incubator will connect with city's larger innovation ecosystem

The University of Chicago is launching a new center to help researchers and entrepreneurs turn their innovations into products, companies and jobs. Slated to open in late 2014, the Chicago Innovation Exchange (CIE) will provide space for proof-of-concept work, start-up incubation, collaboration opportunities, and other tech transfer activities. The center will be able to house five to ten companies per year ... [continue reading >>>](#)

New £50 million fund to support Cambridge spinoffs established

A hefty investment fund has been created to support Cambridge University start-ups. Over the next three years, Cambridge Innovation Capital (CIC) aims to put £50 million (about \$80M US) in the hands of promising new companies based on research from the prestigious university, as well as other early-stage tech companies ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Why start-ups should play it safe in the era of general solicitation

In his recent guest post for *VentureBeat*, seasoned entrepreneur Alan Lobock advises start-ups to proceed with caution when seeking funding publicly now that the ban on general solicitation has been lifted. "You don't want to find yourself paddling upstream," Lobock writes, whether it's by failing to comply with the new rules or by not altering your investment strategy appropriately. Here are Lobock's three key tips for fundraising in this new era ... [continue reading >>>](#)

New ASU program extends entrepreneurship support to more student start-ups

Arizona State University (ASU) is expanding its support for student start-ups with the launch of the Great Little Companies (GLC) Network, a resource for companies that applied to but were not accepted into ASU's student start-up accelerator, the Edson Student Entrepreneurship Initiative ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Purdue opens start-up help center, aims to double spinouts within two years

Purdue University recently opened the new Purdue Foundry, a space in the school's Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship designed to help inventors prepare their innovations for the marketplace. In the past, Purdue faculty members didn't know where to turn among a variety of separate campus resources for help launching a company. The Foundry will now be their central resource for support when it comes to market analysis, business plans, fundraising and other steps towards commercialization ... [continue reading >>>](#)

How to take your company from start-up mode to grown-up mode

In his recent post for *Entrepreneur*, global sales expert Grant Cardone urges start-ups to get out of start-up mode as quickly as possible. "If you keep telling people you're 'just a start-up,' you will never take actions for real growth," Cardone writes. Here are his five tips to take your company into "grown-up mode" ... [continue reading >>>](#)

What it means for start-ups to be scalable, and how to do it

In his recent blog post, start-up advisor Martin Zwilling brings into the question the concept of "scalability" that investors often say they look for in a company. But what does that really mean? According to Zwilling, it means your start-up is able to significantly increase revenue without increasing incremental costs at the same rate. He goes on to offer 10 tips on how to prove to investors your business fits the description ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Large companies beginning to jump on board with university start-up accelerators

StartX Med, a nonprofit healthcare-oriented offshoot of the Stanford-based accelerator StartX, has acquired its first corporate sponsors, Merck and Johnson & Johnson Innovation. The two drug companies are providing an undisclosed amount of funding for StartX Med, as well as mentorship and feedback to students, professors and other entrepreneurs who are launching companies through the six-month program. It appears the linkage may be foreshadowing more similar collaborations between major corporations and accelerators, in which the companies give money and expertise in exchange for a seat at the table with early-stage companies and their technologies ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Student-run Philadelphia hackathon launches accelerator

The Philadelphia-based student-run hackathon PennApps is launching its start-up accelerator to connect tech students with venture capitalists, engineers & seasoned entrepreneurs in the Philadelphia area/beyond ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Boulder start-up to commercialize U of Colorado technology used to preserve vaccines

In other U Colorado (CU) news, the school and Boulder-based startup Nanoly Bioscience have formed a partnership that will enable the company to develop a technique for protecting vaccines during deliveries to rural and developing areas of the world ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Portland-based start-up acquires U of Toronto patent to enhance glass-cutting process

A Portland, OR-based laser tech start-up recently acquired a University of Toronto patent to enhance the company's method of cutting brittle materials like glass and silicon ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Oxford launches start-up incubator in China to support international innovation

Isis Innovation, the tech transfer arm of Oxford University, has launched a start-up incubator for companies aiming to establish a presence in China. The 10,000 square-meter Jinhui International Technology Transfer Centre in Liuzhou will help up to 100 start-ups at a time with business planning, fundraising, team building and more. Industries targeted for the incubator include agricultural innovation, computer software and automotive technology, among others ... [continue reading >>>](#)

13 reasons why so many start-ups fail

George Deeb, Managing Partner at Red Rocket Ventures, has evaluated more than 500 start-ups in the past few years. His recent article for *Forbes* spells out the "unlucky 13 reasons" why so many new ventures crash and burn. In other words, avoid these big blunders ... [continue reading >>>](#)

NIH launches \$31.5M tech transfer initiative to accelerate medical innovations

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has launched a sweeping initiative to boost tech transfer in the form of three new centers that will work to take early-stage medical innovations to market. With a \$31.5 grant from the NIH's National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), the three NIH Centers for Accelerated Innovations (NCIAs) will focus on commercializing technologies that improve the diagnosis, treatment, management and prevention of diseases involving the heart, lungs and blood, as well as sleep disorders ... [continue reading >>>](#)

How to be a better PR spokesperson for your start-up

Tech PR specialist Brooke Hammerling says start-ups often lack a critical capability – the ability to explain their business in terms that everyone can understand and appreciate. If they could brush up on their internal PR skills, she adds, they could do away with outside communications firms ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Yale start-up with novel oncology drug gets \$15M boost in Series A round

Arvinas Inc., a Yale-based biotech start-up developing a novel compound that targets diseased proteins, has raised \$15 million in Series A funds and \$4.25 million in financial support, including \$1M in equity from Connecticut Innovations and the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development ... [continue reading >>>](#)

The "art" of pricing your start-up's seed investment round

Gaurav Jain, a principal at the prominent seed fund Founder Collective, recently posted on *VentureBeat* his five key tips for start-ups pricing their seed rounds. Jain calls pricing "more of an art than a science," namely because every startup is unique and therefore must approach seed funding their own way. Here is Jain's advice on how to do just that ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Use stock options to keep your start-up team fair, happy and motivated

In his recent post for *Tech Cocktail*, expert Neil Kane spells out the best ways to cultivate a happy, motivated team for a start-up that feels its talents and efforts are well rewarded. "There are no silver bullets for how to do this," Kane writes. "I have no doubt you can find plenty of people who have a different take." But coming from someone who has helped launch and run more than a dozen start-ups, Kane's advice is certainly worth hearing out ... [continue reading >>>](#)

General solicitation ban lift causing confusion at start-up demo days

The JOBS Act may have lifted the restriction on general solicitation for start-ups, but the rules that accompany the new policy are causing confusion among some start-ups involved in demo days and other pitching activity. Some of the start-up are voicing concern about where the Act draws the line, and whether their pitching activity could trigger the Act's rules. Does participating in these events inherently imply a request for funding? If so, the ramifications for pitching without

making certain filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, such as verifying that an investor is accredited, could result in some hefty penalties ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Missouri University of Science and Technology adopts crowdfunding to help get start-ups off ground

At Missouri University of Science and Technology, the Office of Technology Transfer and Economic Development is buying into the crowdfunding model to help regional entrepreneurs – including its own start-ups -- raise funds. The university has signed on with EquityNet, a patented matchmaker-style crowdfunding platform, which will become available to start-ups throughout the region. It's a move made in large part because the school is far-removed from the hotbeds of start-up investment like Silicon Valley or Boston ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia start-up works to reverse inherited blindness

A Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP)-based start-up has licensed a Phase 3 gene therapy that counteracts retinal degeneration, one of the most common causes of blindness in children. The company, Spark Therapeutics, acquired the technology from CHOP's Center for Cellular and Molecular Therapeutics, where researchers have targeted the inherited RPE65 gene which, when mutated, ultimately causes profound blindness ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Dartmouth launches first "3-Day Startup" condensed accelerator program

Dartmouth recently launched its first marathon-style accelerator program, 3-Day Startup, in which student teams brainstorm, plan and pitch their business ideas ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Tech transfer – IP

Utah tech transfer initiative found to have exaggerated jobs and wealth created

Utah Science Technology and Research (USTAR), a tech transfer initiative to create jobs and companies by investing in academic research and development, has exaggerated its number of jobs created and amount of money returned, a new audit reports ... [continue reading >>>](#)

"Roadmap" helps educate faculty inventors and supports rigorous IP review

When you hear the word "roadmap," you immediately picture an outline of how to get from "here" to "there." In tech transfer parlance, that means moving from disclosure to the market. But while the University of South Alabama's (USA's) "Commercialization Roadmap" certainly does that, it is designed to do more, according to W. K. "Ker" Ferguson, the school's assistant vice president of research and economic development ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Colorado-based tech transfer group signs U Wyoming as first out-of-state partner

The Innovation Center of the Rockies (ICR), a Boulder-based non-profit tech transfer organization, has signed an agreement to help commercialize research from the University of Wyoming. Though the ICR has made similar partnerships with the University of Colorado, the University of Denver, Colorado State University and others, this is the first agreement it has made outside with an out-of-state research institution ... [continue reading >>>](#)

AAUP report urges faculty researchers to guard their IP from the university

A recent report by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) is urging faculty to do everything they can to protect their intellectual property -- especially from their own universities ... [continue reading >>>](#)

NY Gov. Cuomo announces statewide tech transfer initiative led by SUNY

Governor of New York Andrew M. Cuomo has announced the State University of New York (SUNY) is launching the first of four SUNY Networks of Excellence to spur research collaborations between SUNY and industry partners, and bring more jobs to the state as a result ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Maryland tech transfer firm releases guide to help researchers launch companies

Maryland-based tech transfer firm BioHealth Innovation Inc. (BHI) has published a guide to help biohealth researchers and entrepreneurs create technologies and companies in the region. The publication offers an excellent example of faculty outreach that TTOs may wish to review ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Ready-to-sign licensing boosts deal flow, saves time, and gets dormant IP off the shelf

Finding an interested party to license one of your projects is only half the battle, because then you start the often arduous, drawn out process of developing a license agreement, negotiating terms, and sealing the deal. Sometimes a potential buyer is put off by that prospect and doesn't even make an offer. A growing number of institutions are trying a new strategy that is designed to sharply reduce the time and work involved with licensing selected IP that suits a more streamlined process. Called "ready-to-sign" licensing, the approach involves creating a one-size-fits-all licensing agreement and posting the offer online for potential buyers to peruse. If a company wants to license the patent, they simply sign the license and they're good to go -- no haggling or waiting for paperwork to churn through the offices of lawyers and administrators ... [continue reading >>>](#)

National Energy Technology Lab amps up tech transfer efforts

The National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) is beginning to amp up its commercialization efforts through Innovations Works, the lab's lead tech transfer partner. Michele Migliuolo, Innovation Works' commercialization alliance manager, is leading what the NETL's three national labs hope will be a cultural shift that helps government scientists think like entrepreneurs -- or, in other words, to "think small and think quick" ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Vanderbilt sees major spike in tech transfer revenue over past three years

Vanderbilt University recently announced its earnings from tech transfer have more than quadrupled over the past three years, reaching \$24.5 million in the 2013 fiscal year that ended June 30th. The spike is largely attributed to several major licensing agreements including a Parkinson's treatment licensed to Bristol-Myers Squibb; therapeutics for schizophrenia and Alzheimer's optioned to AstraZeneca; and a lightweight, mechanical exoskeleton technology licensed to Parker Hannifin ... [continue reading >>>](#)

As TTOs focus on economic development, 'innovation districts' come of age

Across the country, university-initiated economic development is becoming a major focus for many TTOs. Pressure from lawmakers and civic leaders is putting the economic potential of university research and start-ups in the spotlight like never before, and the focus is more than trickling down to tech transfer leaders ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Big Ten schools gather to share tech transfer best practices

Indiana University recently gathered all the Big Ten universities and the University of Chicago together to discuss the future of technology transfer in the Midwest and share what's working in their respective TTOs. The gathering is unique among an entire region's tech transfer offices, who put aside any notions of competition to cooperate on boosting commercialization activity for the entire area ... [continue reading >>>](#)

TTO staffing model proves "right-sizing" can save money

Can increasing your staff actually save your TTO money? Though it may seem counterintuitive, that's exactly what the Vanderbilt University Center for Technology and Commercialization (CTTC) has done, perhaps giving other TTOs some ammunition to take to administrators when seeking to increase staff in the face of tight budgets and research cutbacks ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Universities – Best practice

North Dakota State sues over unauthorized use of patented seeds

North Dakota State University Research Foundation is suing a seed dealer who the school alleges is selling patented seed varieties without paying royalties. The lawsuit against Jeff Muckey of Sexauer Discount Farm Services is the second federal case brought by members of the Farmer's Yield Initiative, a consortium of research universities that works to educate farmers on protected seed varieties and investigates claims of patent infringement ... [continue reading >>>](#)

U Washington and U Alabama "nanopore" technology licensed to Illumina

A team of University of Washington (UW) researchers, in collaboration with U Alabama-Birmingham (UAB), have developed a method to read the sequence of a single DNA molecule, paving the way for potential new treatments and prevention of disease ... [continue reading >>>](#)

UNC start-up's marketing fiasco shows founders can take hype too far

A University of North Carolina social media start-up has taken a big PR hit over its decision to advertise via a fake school shooting bulletin. Using a format that mimics UNC's e-mail alert system, the start-up Bevii sent out a message to 17,000 students that an act of gun violence had occurred on campus. The victim? "A blue, outdated social network," the bulletin reads. And Bevii, "a mobile, location-based social network only available to select Universities," is cited as the criminal suspect ... [continue reading >>>](#)

First U of Houston nanotech start-up bringing protective coatings to market

The University of Houston (UH) has launched its first nanotech company C-Votlaics, a manufacturer of highly durable non-toxic coatings that protect a wide variety of products from water, stains, dust, other hazards ... [continue reading >>>](#)

U-Michigan alum fills "Innovation Evangelist" role on campus

The title -- "Innovation Evangelist" -- has an almost romantic ring, but this new position at the University of Michigan had slightly more mundane origins -- the timely combination of a recognized need and the availability of the ideal candidate. "Basically, we leveraged his background," says Kenneth J. Nisbet, associate vice president for research, referring to Richard Douglas, the school's new Innovation Evangelist. Douglas, a U-M alumnus in chemistry with a PhD from UC Berkeley, worked as an executive with biotech firm Genzyme until it was acquired two years ago by Sanofi ... [continue reading >>>](#)

U of Colorado fills void in federal funding by matching researchers with industry

To make up for the recent decline in federal research funding, the University of Colorado (CU) is playing matchmaker between its faculty's technologies and outside industry. The school is taking the unusual step of using an outside consulting firm to find industry partners that will fund CU research, reports Laura Simon, CU's director of strategic initiatives ... [continue reading >>>](#)

U of Colorado options battery technology that could double electric car charge

Researchers at the University of Colorado-Boulder (CU-Boulder) have developed a battery that could one day power electric cars for twice as long as current batteries. CU's Technology Transfer Office optioned the technology to CU-Boulder spinoff Solid Power LLC, formed by inventors Se-Hee Lee and Conrad Stoldt, both professors of mechanical engineering at the university ... [continue reading >>>](#)

U Kansas tech transfer arm launches website for faculty innovators

The University of Kansas Innovation and Collaboration (KUIC) is launching a new website to connect research faculty to resources that can help them take their innovations to market. Formerly the KU Center for Technology Commercialization, the KUIC (pronounced "Quick") is the university's tech transfer arm ... [continue reading >>>](#)

U Alberta discovery may lead to breakthrough in heart disease, diabetes treatments

Researchers at the University of Alberta (U of A) in Edmonton, Canada, have developed a synthetic peptide that could lead to a breakthrough in treatments for heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes ... [continue reading >>>](#)

U Penn's tech transfer center launches contest to find mobile apps among students, faculty

The University of Pennsylvania's tech transfer office is throwing a new contest for students and faculty with great ideas for mobile apps. Run by Penn's Center for Technology Transfer (CTT) and the Penn start-up incubator UPstart, the "AppltUp" contest will give students and faculty the chance to develop a prototype with the help of real industry partners ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Harvard Business School pairs alumni with Harvard researchers to commercialize life sciences technologies

Harvard Business School (HBS) recently announced its first class of Blavatnik Fellows in Life Science Entrepreneurship, selecting five outstanding HBS alumni who will work with the scientists and investors at Harvard labs to help take life science technologies to market ... [continue reading >>>](#)

McGill students crush insects to make nutrient-rich flour for developing nations

A team of MBA students at McGill University has earned the \$1 million Hult Prize for creating a nutrient-rich flour to provide for developing nations around the world -- using crushed insects. "There really isn't a yuck factor," says Shobhita Soor, who co-developed the novel food product with students Jesse Pearlstein, Zev Thompson, Mohammed Ashour and Gate Mott. The team is currently building Aspire Food Group, an organization that will distribute their flour to developing nations around the world ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Ohio State licenses large portfolio of microRNA technologies to Microlin Bio

Ohio State University (OSU) has licensed a large portfolio of its novel cancer technologies to Microlin Bio Inc., an emerging diagnostics and therapeutics company. The portfolio is composed of the work of OSU researchers Carlo Croce, MD, and Robert Lee, PhD, as well as collaborators from the the National Cancer Institute at the National Institutes of Health ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Ohio community college office opens its doors to researchers lacking tech transfer support

A unique new tech transfer office (TTO) in Ohio is taking in outside researchers who don't have TTOs at their own disposal. The recently opened Office of Community Technology Transfer (OCTT) at Lorain County Community College aims to help local inventors in the health, environmental and communication sectors who don't work for universities or large research hospitals, therefore lack the resources to turn their innovations into companies ... [continue reading >>>](#)

U Montreal licenses early-onset morbid obesity treatment to Pfizer

The Institute for Research in Immunology and Cancer-Commercialization of Research (IRICoR) at the Université de Montréal (UdM) has signed a license agreement with Pfizer Inc. to commercialize an IRIC innovation to treat morbid obesity. Under the agreement, Pfizer will fund pre-clinical trials for the treatment and will be in charge of clinical development as well as the commercialization of any resulting products. Pfizer will pay IRICoR an up-front fee, and the university will be eligible to receive development and commercial milestone payments, on top of a tiered royalty on any product sales ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Utah State pushes goes all out to bring synthetic spider silk to the marketplace

Utah State University (USU) recently opened a new 70,000 square foot building on its Innovation Campus to expand a major research commercialization initiative aimed at producing synthetic spider silk ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Hebrew U licenses eco-friendly crop-saving agent

Yissum Research Development Company, the tech transfer arm of Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Makhteshim Agan, leading developer of crop protection solutions, have partnered to commercialize a new nontoxic, eco-friendly bio-control method for protecting a variety of plants ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Wisconsin lawmakers pass bill to let companies sell stock online to general public

The Wisconsin State Assembly has approved a bill allowing in-state companies to sell stock online in the manner of crowdfunding sites like Kickstarter and Indiegogo. Unlike the federal JOBS Act, the bill allows unaccredited investors to participate in the equity sales ... [continue reading >>>](#)

U Central Florida grad student launches company based on novel battery coating

A University of Central Florida (UCF) start-up is developing a novel eco-friendly coating for batteries that has helped earn the company over \$100,000 in grant prizes. Mesdi Systems Inc. is based on the work of UCF grad student Brandon Lojewski, who discovered that by harnessing electricity he could coat a battery with zero waste and at the same time control the coating thickness, an ability no other method has. Overall Lojewski's process reduces material waste by up to 50% ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Hebrew U tech transfer arm develops eco-friendly aquarium filter

Yissum Research Development Company, the tech transfer arm of Hebrew University of Jerusalem, is seeking business partners to help commercialize an eco-friendly water purifier for aquariums ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Purdue launches website focused on faculty outreach, support and engagement

Recognizing the growing dominance of digital marketing, social media, many TTOs have retooled their web site to be more user-friendly, easy to navigate, focused on marketing inventions rather than merely describing them. But Purdue Research Foundation has gone a significant step further, launching an entirely separate landing page designed as an entry point for faculty, industry, others looking to collaborate on research commercialization ... [continue reading >>>](#)

UT Arlington and regional innovation firm launch initiative to boost tech transfer

The University of Texas at Arlington (UT Arlington) and its partner innovation firm Tech Fort Worth (TechFW) are launching a new initiative to help take more UT Arlington technologies to market ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Research

Auburn researchers develop rapid blood test with potential for handheld in-the-field use

Researchers at Auburn University in Alabama have developed a technique to perform and complete blood tests within minutes, a dramatic improvement on the current technology's six hours ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Michigan State researcher develops laser to detect explosive materials at security checkpoints

A Michigan State University (MSU) researcher has developed a potential upgrade for airport security checkpoints: a laser that can detect tiny traces of explosive chemicals on clothing and luggage ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Commercialization of funded research

What you need to know about removal of ban on general solicitation

For 80 years private companies in the U.S. have been banned from fundraising through public advertisements; this week that ban was lifted. In her article for *Entrepreneur*, staff writer Catherine Clifford lays out 5 things start-up founders need to know about the historic shift ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Use this list of 45 great social media tools to boost your social marketing

Ian Cleary of the website *Social Media Examiner* recently offered a generous list of 45 social media tools, each with a brief but helpful guide on how your TTO can use them to improve your social marketing presence and results. "It takes a lot of time to create quality content, engage on social profiles and sustain online relationships that support your business goals," Cleary writes. "There are tools to help. But there are also efficient shortcuts and tips to help you get more out of these technology tools" ... [continue reading >>>](#)

One-time expert advisory panels can help TTOs slash IP backlogs

Having external expert advisory panels available to offer free advice on patenting and commercialization issues is an attractive concept, but such panels may not be sustainable long-term for many technology transfer offices, says Laura Schoppe, MBA, MSE, RTTP, president of the Apex, NC-based intellectual property management and tech transfer consulting firm Fuentek LLC ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Survey reveals what researchers consider the biggest barriers to commercialization

A recent online survey by Sigma-Aldrich and the American Association for the Advancement of Science asked researchers to identify their greatest challenges when attempting to commercializing their innovations. While lack of funding was not surprisingly cited the most, the surveys other responses shed some interesting light on researcher perceptions of key barriers ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Lehigh turns out old steel mill to house semester-long student innovation projects

Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA, is transforming a series of former steelworks buildings into a classroom for students to collaborate on innovation projects ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Purdue researchers develop water purifier powered by UV rays

Researchers at Purdue University are developing a water purifier that harnesses UV radiation from the sun, an abundant resource in developing countries where clean water is lacking ... [continue reading >>>](#)

New online portal will connect Michigan researchers with regional businesses

A number of Michigan research universities have partnered on creating an online platform that connects researchers with the state's business community, which they hope will lead to new ventures based on university research and expertise ... [continue reading >>>](#)

SEC lifts ban on public fundraising for start-ups, VCs, hedge funds

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) recently voted 4 to 1 in favor of implementing section 201(a) of the JOBS Act, lifting the ban on general solicitation and allowing start-ups, VCs and hedge funds to openly advertise fundraisings ... [continue reading >>>](#)

How your start-up can bypass the Series A crunch

Jeff Jordan, former president of both OpenTable and PayPal, and now a full-time investor with Andreessen Horowitz, recently outlined both the reasons behind the so-called "Series A Crunch," as well as recommendations for start-ups looking for follow-on funding but staring that Crunch square in the face ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Case Western Reserve University spinoff taking fast, accurate malaria test to market

The Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) Technology Transfer Office has granted a two-year option to a spinoff company developing a quick, affordable handheld diagnostic test for malaria. The start-up Disease Diagnostic Group LLC (DDG) has raised \$250,000 from sources including the Coulter Foundation to field test the device, known as Rapid Assessment of Malaria (RAM), this fall in Peru. The option gives the company more time to develop RAM for commercialization ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Kansas U start-ups on the rise, and this one leads the pack targeting diabetes in dogs and cats

A Kansas University start-up that is tackling diabetes in dogs and cats is emblematic of the vibrant spinout activity taking place on the KU campus. Likarda LLC was launched in mid-2012 based on research conducted at KU that may help reverse diabetes in the nearly 400,000 American dogs and cats that require daily insulin injections. The company is the 24th active startup company using KU research ... [continue reading >>>](#)

ASU start-up gets \$4M boost for fast-acting cancer test

With an influx of \$4 million in its coffers, an Arizona State University (ASU) spinoff is one step closer to bringing a new diagnostic test for lung, breast, prostate and colorectal cancer to the marketplace. According to Bill Colston, co-founder and CEO of the ASU startup HealthTell, these cancers killed more than 270,000 Americans last year; they are the top four cancers worldwide ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Kansas State U teams with local electronics company to improve wireless technology

Kansas State University (KSU) has entered a partnership with a local electronics company to help develop novel wireless technology and hopefully boost the state's economy ... [continue reading >>>](#)

U Nebraska spinout pushes software for better food safety to market

A University of Nebraska start-up aims to improve food safety with a piece of software that tracks microbial contaminants in food processing plants. The start-up, Presage Analytics, is the product of a collaboration between the university's tech transfer arm NUtech Ventures and iSoft Data Systems, a local company that specializes in inventory and product management software ... [continue reading >>>](#)

Incubation, acceleration and coworking industry

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