





# Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the University of North Carolina

Robert Pinschmidt
Deputy Director
Institute for Advanced Materials, Nanoscience and
Technology
UNC-Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC, USA
rkp@unc.edu



### A Brief History of US University Innovation



#### 1965 - the University of Florida and Gatorade

- Sweating football players lose electrolytes (salts), and strength
  - Prof. Cade: replace water, but add
     Na, K salts, & sugar
  - => Florida Gators become second half football champions
- 1967: Stokely-Van Camp Co. markets Gatorade
  - Sales: \$100M in 1983, \$2.2B by 2001
- Major legal battles, settled 1973 Gatorade Trust
  - UF received >\$80M since 1973 to support research
- By 2003, UF launched 50 biotech companies
- UF now top 10 in biotech transfer, licensing, patents
  - Glaucoma drug Trusopt, Senticon termite system







## A Brief History of US University Innovation

- 1980 **Bayh-Dole Act assigned rights** to inventions from government sponsored research **to universities** 
  - Government retains royalty free non-exclusive license
- US universities set up Technology Transfer Offices
  - Increase, support faculty research
    - Increase prestige
    - Helps keep successful faculty
  - Prompt patent filings with University as owner
  - License technology to companies to earn royalties
- Companies seek licenses to
  - Invest in new technology
  - Lower cost vs in-house research and development (R&D)





### A Brief History of US University Innovation

#### **But problems develop**

- Universities want too much, give too little -
  - Too much **paperwork and restrictions** on inventors
  - Conflict of interest student and faculty work supports education? or business?
  - Demand lots of money for untested technology, keep rights to technology
- Start-up companies hard to form
  - Venture capital hard to raise in many places
  - Lack infrastructure and training for new entrepreneurs
- Companies not always good partners
  - **High secrecy** no exchange of results
  - **Invent around** university patents
  - Fail to follow through or commercialize
    - Slow development or actively suppress the technology



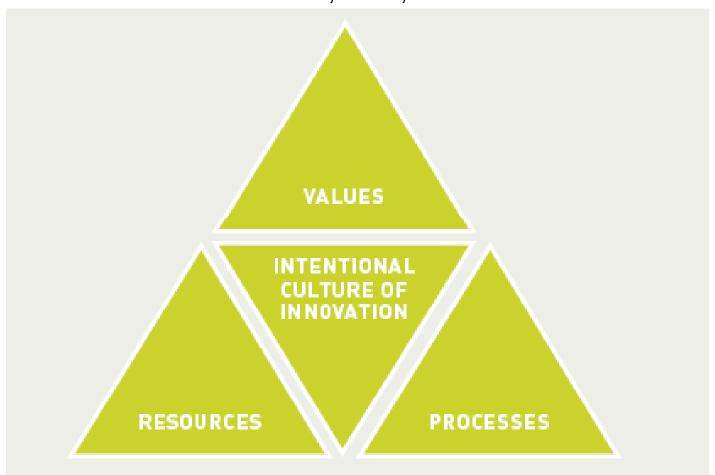


# **UNC Sets Standards:**Clarity and Alignment

Values: That which is worth doing.

**Resources**: Needed people, time, money, facilities, and equipment.

**Processes**: Needed structures, rules, and methods.

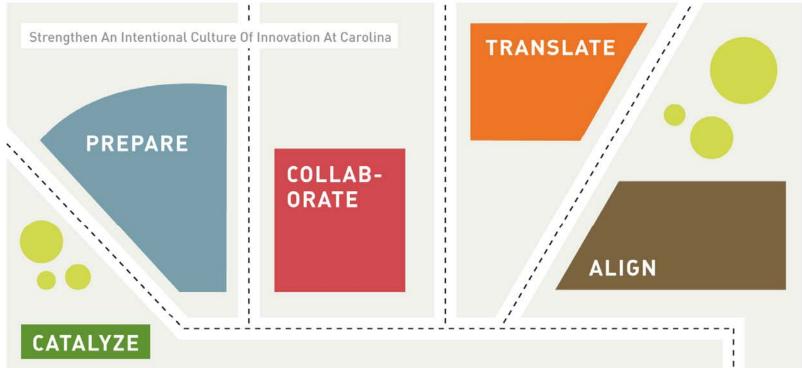




#### A Strong Culture of Innovation at Carolina



Important ideas for a better world



Prepare - knowledge, skills, & connections to drive ideas to innovations

Collaborate - widely across disciplines, increase diversity

Translate - ideas faster into more innovations

Align - people, incentives, resources, funds and processes

Catalyze – use experience of leaders to implement





### Roadmap for the Future

## Chancellor's Innovation Circle Committee appointed to roadmap the future

- 2009 background report: <a href="http://innovation.unc.edu">http://innovation.unc.edu</a>
- 2010 Innovate@Carolina strategic roadmap report:
- \$125M capital campaign to support innovation started
- 2 new Innovation Professorships
- 18 Entrepreneurs-In-Residence throughout the campus

#### 'Our to-do list is nothing less than the greatest problems of our time:

- Cure diseases, and get those cures to all the people who need them.
- Find and invent clean energy.
- Inspire students in our public schools.
- Feed seven billion people.
- Describe the world, and
- Replace conflict with understanding.'
  - Chancellor Holden Thorp (Chemistry Professor and 2 time entrepreneur)

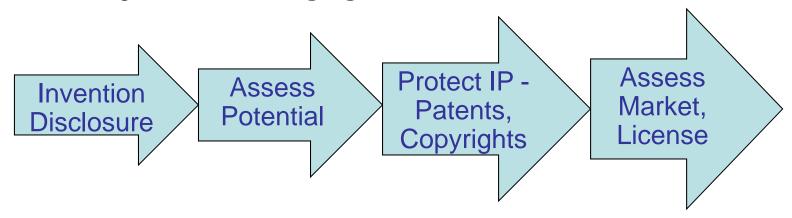


# University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill Office of Technology Development (OTD)



The **UNC OTD** (<a href="http://otd.unc.edu">http://otd.unc.edu</a>) created:

- Help translate discoveries into useful products
  - Evaluate commercial potential
  - Help with patents and other intellectual property (IP)
  - Identify commercial partnership opportunities
    - Attract industry research collaborations, or
    - Help found **new start-up companies**
  - Negotiate licensing agreements





# University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill Office of Technology Development (OTD)



#### The **UNC OTD** (<a href="http://otd.unc.edu">http://otd.unc.edu</a>) created:

- Help translate discoveries into useful products
  - Evaluate commercial potential
  - Help with patents and other intellectual property (IP)
  - Identify commercial partnership opportunities
    - Attract industry research collaborations, or
    - Help found new start-up companies
  - Negotiate licensing agreements
- Educate and encourage UNC innovation and entrepreneurship
  - Carolina Innovations Seminars monthly
    - Lessons and success stories
    - Networking (and free beer!)
  - OTD Internship program for graduates and postdocs
- Stimulate local and regional economic development



## **UNC-CH** #1 US Entrepreneurial Campus\*



#### Carolina Entrepreneurial Initiative (CEI) started 2004

- Goal: bring training in entrepreneurship to education, research and outreach at North Carolina.
  - Kaufmann Foundation + UNC funds \$10.5M
  - Commercial ventures **plus** social, artistic and scientific
  - Reached 1000s: students, faculty, staff, alumni, partners with many activities
    - Entrepreneurial Boot Camp: 4 day workshop for 16 faculty
    - Carolina Innovation Scholarships: 4 entering students/year
    - Carolina Launch Pad (<u>www.carolinalaunchpad.org/</u>): for IT entrepreneurs





# A Priority: Education in Entrepreneurship and Innovation

**Kenan-Flagler Business School** offers extensive courses and training

- Entrepreneurship major for Business, minor for other students
- Financial Literacy Workshop accounting & finance basics
- **Speaker series** featuring successful entrepreneurs, also offers networking
- Women's Entrepreneurship Network helps women compete in a male dominated field
- Center for Sustainable Enterprise seeks triple bottom line:
  - Financial profitability
  - Ecological integrity & sustainability
  - Social equity





### 'Launching the Venture' Course

- Launching the Venture 3-part courses offered yearly
  - For serious **teams** with a new business or non-profit
    - Free for faculty and staff
    - Help find partners for single inventors
  - Phase 1: evaluate market feasibility and patent/defensibility







### 'Launching the Venture' Course

- Launching the Venture 3-part course series offered yearly
  - For serious teams with a new business or non-profit
    - Free for faculty and staff
    - Help find partners for single inventors
  - Phase 1: Evaluate market feasibility and patent/defensibility
  - Phase 2: Business planning process for best ideas and teams

Phase 3: How to attract venture capital







#### 'Launching the Venture' Course

- Launching the Venture 3-part course series offered yearly
  - For teams serious about a new business or non-profit
    - Free for faculty and staff
    - Help find partners for inventors without teams
  - Phase 1: Evaluate market feasibility and patent/defensibility
  - Phase 2: Business planning process for best ideas and teams
  - Phase 3: How to attract venture capital
  - Teams assemble market and economic data and plans, practice presentations to potential investors
  - Experienced volunteer entrepreneurs give consultation, advice, and key contacts



> 100 New Companies





#### Carolina Challenge

www.carolinachallenge.org/

# **Business and Social Venture** competition

- Student led, annual
- Students, faculty or staff can compete
- Top 4 teams win \$5,000 to \$15,000 in donated prizes



#### **2011 Finalists**

Scientific: Rheomics, UVClean, Vivoxin, HTMD

**Social**: Artesenar, FAC, Life Improving Ventures, Musical Empowerment

**Technological**: Windsor Circle, Keona Health, Rascals, MarketPlates

Traditional: Teach Tech, ReDazzle, Green Pet, New Mind Education





## **Key Success Factors**

- Efficient, simple processes to
  - Register ideas and select the good ones
  - Pursue patents
    - UNC: 487 US/720 foreign patents,10 trademarks

#### **Examples from 164 available technologies:**

- •Gene Therapy Treatment of Glaucoma Biologic Therapeutics
- •Novel Anti-Tumor Colchicine Analogs Cancer
- •Improved Industrial Biocatalysts **Chemistry**
- •Physical Avatars of Real and Virtual People Computer Science
- •Hybrid Nanoparticles as Dual Therapeutic/Imaging Agents **Drug Delivery**
- Concentrating Solar Power Plant Energy
- Octapole Ion Trap Mass Spectrometer Instrumentation
- •Improved Fracture Fixation Device Medical/Surgical Devices
- CCR5 Knockout Mice Mouse Models
- •Methods for Producing Recombinant Coronavirus Vaccine Development



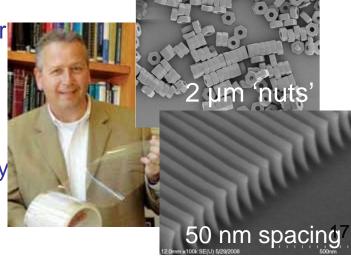


## **Key Success Factors**

- Efficient, simple processes to
  - Register ideas and select the good ones
  - Pursue patents
    - UNC: 678 US/720 foreign patents,10 trademarks
  - Create clear agreements with fair incentives for
    - Inventors (40% vs 15% requirement) and investors
    - Potential for UNC (20% funds OTD services)
  - Balanced, fair, and effective licensing agreements 61.7/yr
    - Carolina Express License gives UNC 0.75 2% royalties

-DeSimone (UNC), Stack (Duke & Synecor LLC) develop 1st **biodegradable heart stent**; patent, sell to Guidant (Abbott) for \$80M, on sale in Europe.

-DeSimone (UNC & Liquidia) developing roll-to-roll molded nanoparticles in many shapes and sizes, e.g.,vaccine products in clinical trials, >\$60M raised

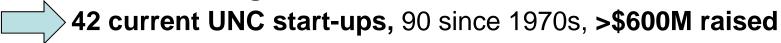






## **Key Success Factors**

- Efficient, simple processes to
  - Register ideas and select the good ones
  - Pursue patents
    - UNC: 678 US/720 foreign patents,10 trademarks
  - Create clear agreements with fair incentives for
    - Inventors (40% vs 15% requirement) and investors
    - Potential for UNC (20% funds OTD services)
  - Balanced, fair, and effective licensing agreements 61.7/yr
    - Carolina Express License gives UNC 0.75 2% royalties
- Active funding networks: venture, angel and other for start-ups
- A few rules and cultural norms to control conflict of interest
- Active support networks for education, information sharing, fund raising, communication
  - A supportive culture that encourages risk taking
  - Active mentoring







## Regional Resources - CED

#### Council for Entrepreneurial Development (CED - <u>www.cednc.org/</u>)

- Mission:
  - Identify, enable and promote high-growth, high-impact companies
  - Build an entrepreneurial culture in North Carolina and the Research Triangle.
- Founded in 1984
- Now 5000 members, both companies and individuals
- Provides education, mentoring and capital formation resources through annual conferences, forums, workshops and programs





#### Other Resources

- <u>www.Entrepreneuredu.org</u> a **clearinghouse** of the best university entrepreneuring programs
- NC Board of Science and Technology, <a href="www.ncscitech.com/">www.ncscitech.com/</a>
  - Encourages, promotes, & supports scientific, engineering and industrial research applications in North Carolina
  - Organizes NC Nanotech Commercialization Conference, One NC Small Business Program, and NC Green Business Fund
- Center of Innovation for Nanobiotechnology (COIN) <u>www.nc-coin.org</u>, nonprofit, virtual center of innovation for networking opportunities, information, and tailored innovation services
- Southeast Techinventures <u>www.southeasttechinventures.com</u> and others work with university based inventors to accelerate commercialization and IP in high tech areas
- UNC Office of Technology Development seminar archive http://otd.unc.edu/news.php





Innovate.unc.edu





#### OTD Strategy & Offerings

Goal: Bring UNC technology to market

- Cradle to grave project management
- Decide on IP strategy and support patent filings
- Decide on collaboration, licensing, creating & licensing a start-up
   or kill
- Negotiate with partners, licensees
- Assist creation of business plan, fundraising, management searching, brokering of interactions with potential partners and customers