

# OHSU and Economic Development

## Translating research into business opportunities

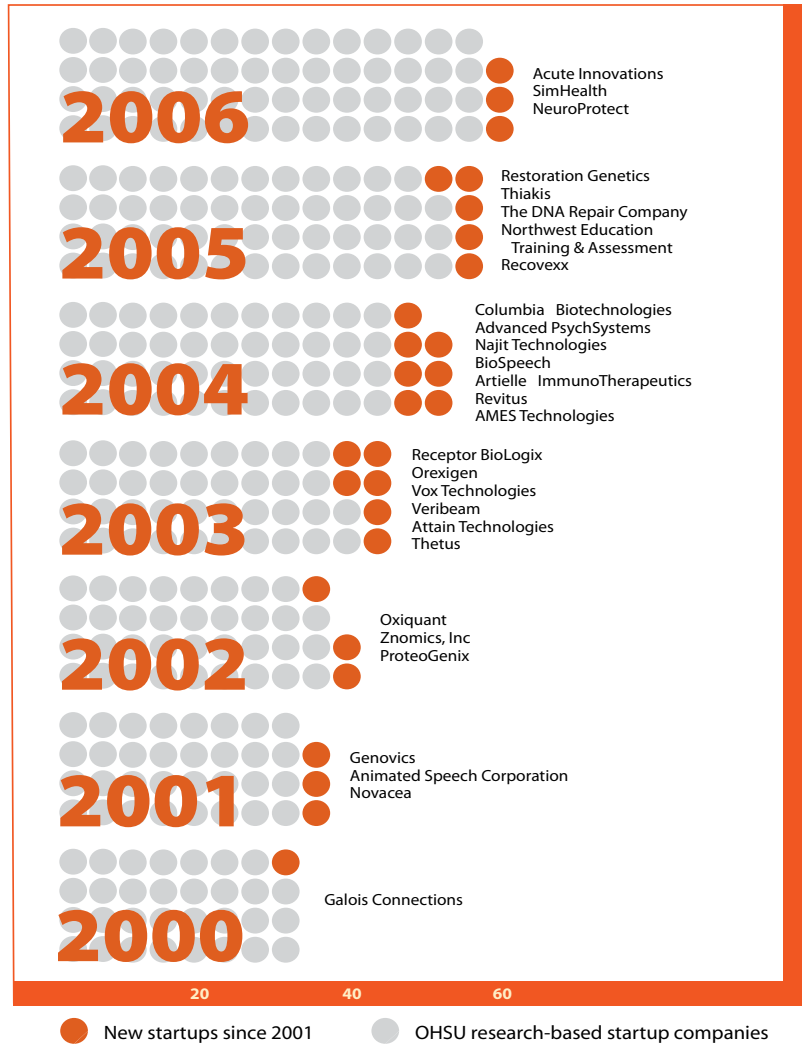
### Startup companies based on OHSU research

OHSU research has resulted in 28 startup companies since 2000, most of which are based in Oregon. All told, OHSU has spawned 59 startups. Because of improving access to venture capital more and more startups are staying in the region.

OHSU excels at cutting edge research, which has propelled it into the top ranks of the nation's academic medical centers. In fiscal year 2006, the university garnered \$294 million in research awards from all funding sources, a 7.4 percent increase over last year, more than three times the total a decade ago. Each new research grant in itself is like bringing a new small business to Oregon.

OHSU's growing reputation, together with incentives and programs as an outcome of The Oregon Opportunity, is attracting an increasingly imposing array of first-rank researchers. More than 80 top-tier investigators have joined an already impressive OHSU roster over the past several years, coming from among others, such prestigious institutions as Johns Hopkins University, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, the Scripps Research Institute and Stanford University.

The Oregon Opportunity was a one-time, voter-approved state investment in 2002 to help fund OHSU's growth to bring the benefits of health and science to patients sooner, in accessible and convenient ways. The bond funds were matched by nearly \$378 million in philanthropic support.



For more information:

[www.ohsu.edu/tech-transfer](http://www.ohsu.edu/tech-transfer)

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## Eight startup companies launched in 2005-2006:

### Acute Innovations

Based on technologies developed by orthopedic and trauma surgeons at OHSU, this new venture funded by Acumed LLC is committed to providing innovative solutions to challenging thoracic surgical procedures.

### SimHealth Consultants

Founded by OHSU anesthesiologist Michael Seropian, M.D., and Bonnie Driggers, R.N., M.P.H., an assistant professor in the OHSU School of Nursing, its mission is to facilitate the integration of simulation-based education in all healthcare domains and to provide the healthcare industry with access to expertise to develop top quality simulation programs.

### NeuroProtect

This startup is working on new ways to protect the brain from injury due to stroke. Based on research conducted by Mary Stenzel-Poore, Ph.D., professor in OHSU's department of molecular microbiology and immunology, which shows that certain compounds, when given in advance of stroke, can produce greater tolerance to brain injury.

### Northwest Education Training and Assessment

NETA has developed a computer-based workplace training program that melds safety and health content in a format that works effectively with people at all organizational levels, including those without computer or educational experience.

### Restoration Genetics

Founded by researchers Amanda McCullough, Ph.D., and Stephen Lloyd, Ph.D., in OHSU's Center for Research in Occupational and Environmental Toxicology this company has developed a patented technology that can treat sunlight-induced DNA damage that eventually can lead to skin cancer.

### Thiakis

Located in the United Kingdom, this biopharmaceutical company is focused on the development of novel therapeutic approaches for the treatment of obesity and other metabolic diseases.

### The DNA Repair Company

Based on the work of Markus Grompe, M.D., director of OHSU's Oregon Stem Cell Center, and Alan D'Andrea, M.D., of the Dana Farber Cancer Institute at Harvard University, the company focuses on methods and compositions for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer associated with defective DNA repair mechanisms.

### Recovexx

Building on technology developed in the neurology laboratory of Bruce Gold, Ph.D., at OHSU's Center for Research on Occupational and Environmental Toxicology as well as at Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc., Recovexx is engaged in the development of neurological therapeutics affecting recovery and protection of nerve function. Its key product is Timcodar, a compound with neuroregenerative and neuroprotective biological properties, giving it potential therapeutic value for many neuropathies, including diabetic neuropathy and multiple sclerosis.

Today OHSU's research will contribute ever more significantly to the region's economic development. OHSU's investments in additional world-class research facilities both on the South Waterfront and on Marquam Hill will further enhance those prospects. The new Bioscience Research Building, for example, houses a cutting-edge MRI system equivalent to only one other site in the United States, the National Institutes of Health itself.

OHSU is diligently translating discoveries, wherever possible, into commercial applications. The Office of Technology & Research Collaborations is the university's bridge to industry. TRC is forging ties with the entrepreneurial and local business community to create a framework of support for development of companies utilizing OHSU research.

The Innovation & Seed Fund is part of TRC's strategic plan to accelerate development of an infrastructure to spur growth of Oregon's nascent bioscience industry. It is a robust program designed to catalyze the development and commercialization of OHSU research. Its three main components are:

### Technology Development Program

This initiative provides funding for technologies that have a clear path to near-term commercial viability and/or startup investment. It provides funding to demonstrate proof of principle, conduct key experiments, or achieve other necessary milestones.

### The Springboard Program

It provides selected OHSU startups with access to experts in new venture development, funding for legal and accounting services and assistance with business and strategic plan development.

### Startup Investment Program

This program provides a mechanism to grow and retain OHSU companies in the region. It offers seed funding to an OHSU-based startup that commits to staying in Oregon for a proscribed period of time if it has a 3:1 match of private capital.



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*OHSU includes the schools of dentistry, medicine, nursing, and science and engineering; OHSU Hospital and Doernbecher Children's Hospital; numerous primary care and specialty clinics; multiple research institutes; and several outreach and community service units.*

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