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INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION



OHSU INNOVATES

SEPTEMBER 2020

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

OCTRI BIP Device & Diagnostic: Apply by September 23

LOI due: Sept. 23, 2020, 11:59 p.m. PT

Application due: Nov. 12, 2020

The [OCTRI Biomedical Innovation Program](#) is accepting applications for its [Device and Diagnostic program](#).

The program supports medical device and diagnostic technology development and commercialization. The BIP will fund projects that aim to address significant clinical problems, save money, or improve research efficiency or patient care quality.

Who is eligible?

All employees and students of OHSU are eligible. If your research involves human or

animal subjects, you must meet [OHSU Principal Investigator](#) requirements, and if you aren't faculty, you must submit written approval from your supervisor or department head.

How much is the award?

Awardees will receive a maximum of \$40,000 in funding. Funds are typically awarded for one year of research.

How do I apply?

Applicants should first submit a [Technology Disclosure Form](#) to OHSU Technology Transfer if they haven't submitted one already. Applicants should then [submit their letter of intent through REDcap](#) by September 23, 2020, at 11:59 p.m.

Selected applicants will be interviewed by reviewers in mid-October and submit full applications by November 12, 2020.

[View the RFA](#) for full application instructions, and contact [Jonathan Jubera](#) with your Device & Diagnostic questions.



NEW Fast track funding for developing COVID-19 biosensors for skin or oral cavities

The [Washington Entrepreneurial Research Evaluation & Commercialization Hub \(WE-REACH\)](#) is announcing fast track funding for early-stage projects aimed at developing biosensors for COVID-19 open to researchers in the Pacific Northwest. This one-time opportunity through the NIH is part of the [Emergency RADx-Rad initiative](#) to detect the virus or other biomarkers in nasal and oral cavities or skin.

This funding is intended to support innovators with promising technologies and identified biomarkers for early-stage product concept development (R&D) by providing support and project tracking. Each applicant may request up to \$434K for 2 years. [Learn more.](#)



Launch of the National COVID Cohort Collaborative (N3C) Data Enclave

The [National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences \(NCATS\)](#) and the [National Center for Data to Health \(CD2H\)](#) announce the launch of the [National COVID Cohort Collaborative \(N3C\)](#) Data Enclave. The N3C aims to aggregate, harmonize, and make accessible vast amounts of data from healthcare providers nationwide to accelerate advances in COVID-19 research and clinical care. With the uncertainty of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the scientific community and Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Program created the N3C as a partnership to overcome technical, regulatory, policy, and governance barriers to harmonizing and sharing individual-level clinical data. This innovative initiative was established under the leadership of OHSU's [Melissa Haendel, Ph.D.](#)

The N3C Data Enclave supports collaborative analytics across a broad range of clinical and translational domains, such as acute kidney injury, diabetes, pregnancy, cancer, immunosuppression, social determinants of health, and many other conditions to target mechanism, drug discovery, and best care practices for COVID-19. Currently, the Enclave contains 304,000 persons and 25,905 COVID-19 cases documented from 11,000 visits, with these numbers growing rapidly given the 57 clinical centers that have now signed regulatory agreements to submit their data.

The N3C was launched in just a few short months and is a testament to the dedication of the community to fight the pandemic. Attribution for collaborative efforts is key to N3C's philosophy of supporting rapid, robust, and reproducible results and is carried out through the Enclave's graph-based tracking and reporting

method. The first manuscript that covers the methods for building the Enclave: The National COVID Cohort Collaborative (N3C): Rationale, Design, Infrastructure, and Deployment is currently [in press at JAMIA](#) with almost 200 authors.

Please join the N3C and help save lives by collaborating with a diverse group of clinicians, researchers, and data scientists to identify treatments and specialized care needs, and reduce the immediate and long-term impacts of COVID-19. For more information, access the [National COVID Cohort Collaborative \(N3C\) website](#) and the [National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences \(NCATS\) N3C webpage](#).



OBI Appoints Aditi Martin to its Board of Directors

[Aditi Martin](#), Senior Director of [Collaborations and Entrepreneurship](#) was recently elected as an [OBI/OTRADI](#) Board Director. Aditi is a strategy and innovation professional with extensive experience in building partnerships and negotiating a variety of commercialization agreements. She was also a recipient of Portland Business Journal's 2018 Forty under 40.



Dutch firm that licensed OHSU tech gets \$31M infusion

A biotech company based in The Netherlands that licensed technology from Oregon Health & Science University has raised \$31 million in a Series A financing round.

Vico Therapeutics, B.V., an **OHSU startup**, is a biopharmaceutical company developing RNA modulating therapies for rare neurological disorders, with initial focus on SCA – Spinocerebellar ataxia, HD – Huntington’s disease and RETT syndrome. **Dr. Gail Mandel, Ph.D.**, senior scientist at the Vollum Institute and professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at OHSU, is a scientific co-founder of Vico Therapeutic which was founded on her discoveries related to a RNA editing platform that is under development for the treatment of RETT syndrome. [Read more.](#)

FEATURED STORY



OHSU Startup Spotlight: Inherent Targeting

Nerve damage is a common complication of prostatectomy, hysterectomy, hernia surgeries, and many other surgical procedures, and can lead to pain, loss of function, and long-term physical impairment. For a variety of reasons, it can be challenging for surgeons to avoid nerves during surgery: they can resemble other tissue, the surgical field may be obstructed by bodily fluids, or the patient’s anatomy may be altered by trauma or a previous surgery. An OHSU Startup, Inherent Targeting, is advancing the clinical development of high contrast, nerve-specific fluorescent dyes that will help surgeons visualize nerves buried within in the surgical field and distinguish them from surrounding tissues. These compounds would be easy to incorporate into current surgical workflows, as they can be given to patients

intravenously or administered directly to the surgical site, and can be used with fluorescence-guided surgery instruments that are routinely used by surgeons.

The novel nerve-specific fluorescent dyes were developed by an OHSU research team headed by [Summer Gibbs, Ph.D.](#), Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering, and her lab members [Lei Wang, Ph.D.](#), a postdoctoral fellow, and [Connor Barth, Ph.D.](#), a senior research scientist. Their work on these compounds was published recently in *Science Translational Medicine*. In order to advance their lead compounds and bring them into a clinical setting, Gibbs, Barth, and Wang, co-founded Inherent Targeting and are currently fundraising to support their efforts. The team publicly announced their company at the Virtual Pacific Northwest Healthcare Demo Event in April, 2020.

“We are working on a cutting-edge technology to allow surgeons to see the unseen to help improve the outcomes for patients by eliminating nerve damage. Our goal is to revolutionize surgery with fluorescence guided surgery technology that will enable real time nerve identification with high depth over a wide field of view,” says Barth, co-founder and CEO of Inherent Targeting.

The journey leading to the launch of Inherent Targeting started 12 years ago when Gibbs began work creating contrast agents for image-guided surgery clinical trials while at Harvard Medical School. In 2013, soon after coming to OHSU, Gibbs received a [Biomedical Innovation Program \(BIP\)](#) award from [Oregon Clinical and Translational Institute \(OCTRI\)](#). The BIP award provided proof-of-concept funding and project management to support early development of the nerve-specific fluorophore technology. This proof-of-concept work served as a foundation for the team to create large libraries of novel nerve-specific fluorophores and obtain additional funding towards their commercial development. The team has since received an R01 grant from the NIBIB, an MJ Murdock Charitable Trust grant, and two additional BIP grants, which provided additional funding support for further optimization of the compounds. Integrated into the commercialization effort by the Gibbs team is their ongoing relationship with [OHSU Technology Transfer](#), [OHSU Collaborations and Entrepreneurship](#) and its [Entrepreneur-in-Residence program](#), and OCTRI. Working closely with these groups, the Gibbs team received guidance, support, and resources to help begin the work of translating their innovation out of the lab and into the clinic, including guidance on appropriate patent protection of the compounds, licensing, startup formation, entrepreneurship, and various commercially-focused funding opportunities.

When asked what advice Barth might provide OHSU innovators who would like to

bring a product to market he said, “It is important to use the resources available to OHSU. There is only so much you can learn on your own, so have others teach you the way.”

FEATURED EVENTS



Want to make healthcare better?
Brainstorm • Build • Make an Impact!

Propel your ideas in medtech and digital health/health IT into action.

Compete for up to \$40,000 in prizes.

OHSU
Invent-a-thon
October 23-25, 2020 Learn more at inventathon.org

Brought to you by:



In Partnership with:



Applications now open for OHSU Invent-a-thon, Online, Oct. 23–25

Get the inspiration, support, and team that you need to propel an idea into action!

We hope you can join us for the [OHSU Invent-a-thon](#), a virtual healthcare hackathon being led by OHSU in collaboration with [MIT Hacking Medicine](#) and more than 20 academic and industry partners from across the Pacific Northwest.

The MIT Hacking Medicine model has been adopted by leading healthcare centers across the country. An impressive number of impactful innovations, startup companies, and lasting connections have been launched out of MIT Hacking Medicine weekends and we are excited for similar outcomes here.

Open to anyone in the world, the OHSU Invent-a-thon will convene hundreds of innovation enthusiasts – from thought leaders to students – in medicine, engineering, research, business, and design to focus on building Medtech and Digital Health/Health IT solutions in Surgical Care, Early Disease Detection, Rural Health, and Management of Chronic Conditions to make healthcare better. Additional

rewards will be provided for promising solutions to COVID-19 and healthcare disparity-related problems within these tracks.

Participants will have the opportunity to hear from inspiring keynotes, join an interdisciplinary team of fellow innovation enthusiasts, brainstorm and build a solution, attend workshops, receive mentorship from experts, grow their network, speak with our sponsors, get connected to follow-on support, and pitch a solution to investor judges to compete for \$40,000 in team prizes.

How to get involved? [Learn more](#) and apply as a participant or mentor by October 7. We encourage you to invite your colleagues to join.

Please contact inventathon@ohsu.edu with questions.

TECHNOLOGIES AVAILABLE FOR LICENSING

OHSU #1991 — T2* Mapping for quantitative assessment of placental function and oxygenation

OHSU #2598 — Differentiating extravascular from intravascular MRI contrast using T2* and SWI weighted sequences

OHSU #2639-A — Monoclonal antibody (7B1) against the α subunit of human epithelial sodium channel (hENaC)

OHSU #2944 — Small molecule modulators of PTP sigma for nerve regeneration

NEWLY LICENSED OHSU TECHNOLOGIES

OHSU #1771 — Materials from the BioLibrary

OHSU #2274 — ImmortaMAITs: immortalized Mucosal Associated Invariant T (MAIT) cells as new human cell line reagents for human immunobiology research, Inventor: David Lewinsohn

OHSU #2422 – Polyclonal rabbit antibody to gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH), Inventor: Henryk Urbanski

OHSU #2475 – Novel Fluorescent Dyes for In Vivo Nerve-Specific Imaging, Inventors: Connor Barth, Summer Gibbs, Lei Wang

OHSU #2666 – NTranscription-dependent directed evolution (TRADE) and novel AAV capsids, Inventors: Kei Adachi, Samuel Huang, Hiroyuki Nakai

U.S. PATENTS ISSUED

Patent # 10,738,310 – Treating cancer deficient in FANCA, FANCD2, FANCE, or FANCG with an ATMinhibitor

Patent # 10,746,742 – Methods of viral neutralizing antibody epitope mapping

RESEARCHERS IN NEW INDUSTRY-FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS

[John Brigande, Betsy Ferguson](#) - Identification of Otoferlin Frameshift and Missence Mutants at Tulane

[Benjamin Burwitz](#) - Learning from the Ebola success: Can a mAb also save lives after yellow fever

[William Fleming](#) - Evaluation of the functional activity of different human CD34 cell expansion platforms

[Markus Grompe](#) - Treatment of fatty liver with gene therapy

[Phil Raess](#) - Bone Marrow Aspiration, Development and Clinical Study

[Daniel Streblow](#) - External Site Evaluation of RT-QPCR assay for SARS-COV2 Infection

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEP
9-25

VertueLab: Annual Cleantech Innovation Summit

SEP
18

InventOR Finals

SEP
21-25

UIDP: UIDPConnect 2020

SEP
23

OBI Virtual Lunch & Learn: Bioscience Career Panel

SEP
23

Technology Association of Oregon: 2020 Oregon
Technology Awards

OCT
1-2

Oregon Bio Annual Conference

OCT
15-16

Bend Venture Conference

OCT
23-25

OHSU Invent-a-thon: A Virtual Event

NOV
11

Commercialization Design Studio

Questions? Contact us at techmgmt@ohsu.edu.

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3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Rd. Portland, OR, 97239, US

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