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INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION

July 6, 2023

OHSU INNOVATES



LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

The mission of OHSU Innovates is to support innovation and entrepreneurship at OHSU and across the region, and this newsletter often shines a spotlight on the achievements of our inventors, startups, entrepreneurs, and regional partners. This month we'd like to shift the focus and invite our readers to meet some of the OHSU Innovates team members who support our innovators behind the scenes.

OHSU Innovates staff come from across OHSU and includes interns, agreement managers, intellectual property specialists, alliance managers, entrepreneurs-in-residence and many others. We hope you enjoy learning a little more about a few of our team members and the services they provide.

Our innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem continued to thrive and grow this past fiscal year. This was only possible because of the prolific community of inventors, entrepreneurs and support staff that all work together to make OHSU Innovates possible. Wherever your role may fall within this network, we want to thank you for being a part of this vibrant community, and we look forward to sharing many more accomplishments (maybe yours?) in the next fiscal year.

Travis Cook, M.S., M.B.A, CLP

Senior Director, Technology Transfer

Aditi Martin, Ph.D.

Senior Director, Collaborations and Entrepreneurship

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Jim with Boba (left) and Jack (right) with Blue in background.

[James “Jim” Lagowski, M.S.](#) is an agreements manager for the Academic and Industry Collaborations team in OHSU Technology Transfer. Jim negotiates a number of agreement types, including sponsored research and material transfer for several groups at OHSU such as the Casey Eye Institute and Reading Center, the Departments of Biomedical Engineering and Emergency Medicine, and others.

Jim also uses his background in science and management of research partnerships outside of work for a cause close to his family. When Jim’s nephew Owen was 2 years old, he was diagnosed with a very rare genetic neurodevelopmental disorder called PURA Syndrome. Despite the challenges faced by Owen and his family, Jim says, “PURA doesn’t slow down my sister’s family at all, and Owen is one of the sweetest and happiest kids I know; he’s really just a joy.” Last year, Jim began volunteering for the PURA Syndrome Foundation, as a liaison between parents of children with PURA syndrome and the scientists working to better understand and treat the disease. In this role, Jim helps the PURA families who make up the Foundation’s Board understand the latest scientific findings on PURA—and what these findings mean for the medical field and for their families. Jim recently traveled to the UK to attend the PURA Syndrome Foundation’s annual meeting, where he enjoyed getting to meet many of the scientists and PURA families face-to-face for the first time.

“Jim is a hard-working member of the OHSU Innovates team and is a key contributor to the development of many OHSU strategic partnerships” said Travis Cook, senior director of OHSU Technology Transfer. “Our team has so many unique talents and we are proud of Jim’s extra effort to share his skills to maximize his impact within the community that we serve. OHSU and the PURA Syndrome Foundation are both very lucky to have him on our teams.”

To learn more about the PURA Syndrome Foundation [visit their website](#).

FEATURED STORY



Photo by Jason DeSomer of Whatever.Photo

OHSU startups receive investments at Angel Oregon Life and Bioscience Showcase

Congratulations to OHSU startups [ProMedix](#) and [Trace Biosciences](#) for taking home investments totaling \$375,000 at the Angel Oregon Life and Bioscience (AOBIO) finale event May 13th. The investments will advance two innovations developed at OHSU: a new device to improve the diagnosis of sepsis in hospital settings and a novel fluorescent agent that highlights nerves during surgery — and helps surgeons avoid them.

A special thank you goes out to OHSU Innovates senior alliance manager [Philip Barish, Ph.D.](#) who assisted with the planning and execution of the AOBIO event and helped make it a successful investment program. Read more about the startup companies and investments on the [OHSU Research News blog](#).

FEATURED NEWS

OHSU Biofabrication Hub secures \$1M to develop state-of-the-art technologies for building with living cells

Researchers at the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute have new funding to expand the newly formed [Knight Cancer Precision Biofabrication Hub](#). These funds will be used to equip the facility with state-of-the-art technologies to develop lab-grown organoids and other novel biofabrication methods for cancer research. The hub will also advance innovative technologies developed by OHSU researchers, including [Luiz Bertassoni, D.D.S., Ph.D.](#) , who serves as the hub's founding director.

Read more about the plans for the new hub on this [OHSU News story](#).

OHSU Innovates interns are making moves – could you be next?

We are looking for our next interns for fall 2023! You can [apply here!](#)

We are happy to share three recent success stories from past interns who successfully leveraged their training at OHSU to achieve new milestones in their careers!

- Todd Camp (winter 2020 intern) recently completed his Master of Business Administration at Oklahoma State University and currently works as a business development manager at Cepheid, a California-based diagnostics company Todd said, “The time in [the internship] program really helped me see the intersection of science and business and how fascinating it is.”
- Adrienne Wilburn (fall 2021 intern) recently defended her Ph.D. dissertation and started a new position as a licensing analyst at the Ohio State University's Office of Innovation and Economic Development. Speaking about her time in the internship, Adri said “I gained a very solid foundation in multiple aspects of tech transfer while finishing my Ph.D. in Ohio. For anyone interested, I highly recommend this program!”
- Esmerelda Arreguin-Martinez (spring 2022 intern) recently defended her master's thesis at the University of Washington and secured a new position as a patent examiner for the US Patent and Trademark Office.

There's still time to apply for the fall 2023 internship cohort, applications are due July 14! More details on the program and how to apply can be found on the [OHSU Innovation and Commercialization Internship webpage](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

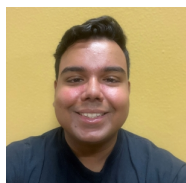
Meet the new OHSU Innovates team members

Please join us in welcoming three new team members to OHSU Innovates. Together these three new additions bring fresh skills and perspectives, allowing OHSU Innovates to continue to provide critical research support and partnership services to our community.



Claudia Nakama, MSGH

Claudia joined the Oregon Clinical and Translational Research Institute (OCTRI) as an innovation alliance manager in the spring 2023, and is working to build early-stage FDA regulatory support programming for OHSU investigators. Claudia comes from a biotech startup background where she gained experience in compliance, clinical trial management, process development, and quality control.



Christopher Sagar

Chris joined OCTRI this past year as an administrative coordinator. In his role, Chris supports the OCTRI Finance & Operations team, the Innovation & Awards Program, and OHSU Collaborations and Entrepreneurship. Chris joined OHSU after finishing his Bachelor of Science in health services administration at Portland State University.



Ryan Steel, Ph.D

Ryan joined OHSU Collaborations and Entrepreneurship as a senior alliance manager in the summer of 2023. Ryan works with OHSU investigators to establish and manage high-quality partnerships, to enhance their research capabilities and impact. Ryan brings more than a decade of experience in R&D, both in academia and industry, to the OHSU Innovates team. He has a strong scientific background in drug discovery and drug development, neuroscience, and infectious disease research.

Join OHSU Innovates in advancing leading-edge science – become a sponsor today!

OHSU Innovates is seeking sponsors for the next fiscal year to continue to build a thriving ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship at OHSU and across the region. Sponsor funds support in-person events and virtual programming that bring our community together and provide entrepreneurial education. We offer multiple tiers of sponsorship, allowing organizations to choose their level of support and sponsor benefits. Interested parties can find more details on the [sponsorship flyer](#) or contact innovates@ohsu.edu directly.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Each week, OHSU Research Development compiles a list of funding opportunities from internal sources, the government and private foundations. The [list is published every Thursday](#). A [pdf of the current list](#) is also available [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 6	Accelerate Biotech + Digital Health Happy Hour
JULY 12	Oregon Bio Opportunities at MedTech 2023
JULY 22	TAO: Party in the Pinot
JULY 27	Bio On Tap Serves Up Ruminations of Artificial Intelligence
AUG. 17	Oregon Bio Women CONNECT - Save the Date!
SEPT. 13 AND 20	FUEL 2023
OCT. 25	Biotech Summit at Twist Bioscience

SPONSORS

Thank you to our current sponsors for their support of OHSU Innovates!



Questions?

Contact us at innovates@ohsu.edu

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