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**INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION**

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September 6, 2023

## OHSU Innovates



### LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Summer breaks and vacations did not seem to slow down OHSU innovators, many of whom continued to make great strides in advancing their technologies over recent months. In this newsletter you'll find stories about recent investments, partnerships, and recognitions within the OHSU innovation community.

You'll also find details in this newsletter about OHSU Innovates programs

happening this fall. These include funding opportunities through the Biomedical Innovation Program and entrepreneurial training through the BIP Commercialization Readiness Program. OHSU Innovates is also launching a new resource for OHSU members called Market Research Lab. This new program can assist OHSU members with market analysis for grant proposals and technology pitches.

Lastly, if you have a passion for advancing biomedical breakthroughs, consider applying to work with our team! Details about two open positions within OHSU Technology Transfer can be found below.

**Travis Cook, M.S., M.B.A, CLP**  
Senior Director, Technology Transfer

**Aditi Martin, Ph.D.**  
Senior Director, Collaborations and Entrepreneurship

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## INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT



## NICH wins the American Diabetes Association's first Innovation Challenge pitch event

OHSU's Novel Interventions in Children's Health, or NICH, program was one of three winners in the American Diabetes Association's first

Innovation Challenge pitch event! NICH works to make management of diabetes easier for children facing complex social situations, like homelessness, transportation challenges, underemployment, and unemployment, among many others. NICH was founded by [Michael Harris, Ph.D.](#), a professor of pediatrics, and [Kimberly Spiro, Ph.D.](#), an associate professor of pediatrics. Watch the winning pitch below and learn more about NICH in the [OHSU News story](#).

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## NEWS

### **Trace Biosciences receives investment from the Elevate Innovation Fund**

OHSU startup company [Trace Biosciences](#), co-founded by OHSU members [Summer Gibbs, Ph.D.](#), Connor Barth, Ph.D., and [Lei Wang, Ph.D.](#), was one of six startups to receive an investment from the Elevate Innovation Gap Fund. Trace is developing a novel fluorescent agent, that improves visualization of nerves to prevent surgical-related nerve damage. The Elevate Innovation Gap Fund supports disruptive science and research-based innovation throughout Oregon by investing in early-stage founders. It is sponsored by Oregon Innovation Council (Oregon InC) Commercialization Gap Fund and Business Oregon. Learn more about the fund and Trace Biosciences in the [announcement](#).

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### **Afri Grow Partners with Gamma Diagnostics**

OHSU startup company Gamma Diagnostics has received approval from the South Africa Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) for GammaCoeur™ CVD Risk ELISA Test System and entered into an exclusive distribution agreement for GammaCoeur™ with Afri Grow (Pty) Ltd. The collaboration between Afri Grow and Gamma Diagnostics Inc. aims to introduce the GammaCoeur™ ELISA, a cutting-edge diagnostic blood test that revolutionizes the way healthcare professionals diagnose cardiovascular risk and potentially various other medical conditions. Gamma Diagnostics was founded by [David Farrell, Ph.D.](#), OHSU professor

of surgery. Read more about the approval and partnership in the [press release](#).

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## **Harnessing an immune-based therapy to treat solid cancers**

Congratulations to [Robert Eil, M.D.](#), and Alexandra Bartlett, Ph.D., who were the recipients of the 2023 Biomedical Innovation Program Drug Discovery award. The team aims to modify a therapy that currently treats blood cancers so that it will effectively fight solid tumors in the liver. Read more about [the project and the OCTRI BIP program](#).

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## **Mindfulness-based cognitive therapy for pregnant people**

OHSU startup CenterM was recently awarded an STTR grant to increase accessibility of mental health therapy for underserved pregnant people. The award will help the team build a smartphone to advance their mental health intervention as well as support wider efficacy testing with a pilot randomized controlled trial.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Join the Biomedical Innovation Commercial Readiness Program**

Do you have a great biomedical startup idea but don't know where to start? The Biomedical Innovation: Commercialization Readiness Program is a free virtual program, open to OHSU and non-OHSU members, that jump-starts the business planning process. The course will take you out of your comfort zone to connect with potential customers and provide you with a competitive business case for future funding, partnership and translational science opportunities. Find out more about the [course details and schedule](#).

Enroll now

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## **New OHSU Innovates resource for market research analysis**

OHSU Innovates has launched a new resource for OHSU entrepreneurs, clinicians and researchers. Market Research Lab is a service that will connect you with a facilitator to assist with market intelligence research to support all stages of project development for new drug and device technology. Find out more about OHSU's [Market Research Lab](#).

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## **OHSU Technology Transfer is hiring!**

Are you interested in advancing leading-edge biomedical research through collaborations and commercialization? Join the OHSU Innovates team, which is currently accepting applications for two fully remote positions in the OHSU Technology Transfer team.

### **Agreements Manager**

As part of the Academic and Industry Agreements team, the agreements manager position is responsible for management of preclinical contracts/agreements, including negotiation and administrative processing of material transfer agreements, industry sponsored/collaborative research agreements, academic collaborations and non-disclosure or confidentiality agreements. See the [full job description and apply here](#).

### **Technical Specialist**

As part of the Patent team, the technical specialist position is responsible for reviewing invention disclosures, prior art searching, patent specification and claim drafting, and communication with outside counsel to manage ongoing patent prosecution. See the [full job description and apply here](#).

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## **Farewell to Darcie Babcock**

Join us in saying farewell to Agreements Manager Darcie Babcock, M.S.!

During her time at OHSU, Darcie advanced collaborations with both academic and industry partners for OHSU members from many departments, including the Knight Cardiovascular Institute, Vollum Institute, and the Oregon National Primate Research Center, among others. The Innovates team wishes Darcie the best of luck in her new position within the Oregon State University technology transfer team.

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## **Welcome Ronn Leon to the Collaborations and Entrepreneurship team!**



Ronn Leon, Ph.D., has joined OHSU Innovates as new alliance manager. He will be working closely with OHSU faculty and other members of the OHSU community to maximize the value of current collaborations, while also establishing new collaborations to help advance research and the quality of patient care. Ronn has been with OHSU for 14 years, serving in various roles including Postdoctoral Scientist, Senior Research Associate Scientist, and most recently, Agreements Manager with OHSU Technology Transfer.

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### **Biomedical Innovation Program - Medical device, diagnostics and software technologies**

The Biomedical Innovation Program, or BIP, Device, Diagnostic, and Software track supports the development and commercialization of novel

and innovative technologies which aim to improve healthcare delivery. There will be an [application Q&A session](#) Sept. 12, 1-2 p.m. and letters of intent are due Sept. 27. See the [Request for Applications](#) for eligibility requirements and application details.

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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

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SEPT. 13	<a href="#">Seattle Pediatric Innovation</a>
SEPT. 14	<a href="#">PDXWIT &amp; NAVEX: Unlocking Pathways Into Tech and Tech-adjacent Careers</a>
SEPT. 14	<a href="#">OTRADI's 15th Anniversary Celebration</a>
SEPT. 20	<a href="#">Virtual Lunch &amp; Learn: FDA Submissions - Best Practices for Early Stage Startups</a>
SEPT. 20-OCT. 25	<a href="#">OCTRI Biomedical Commercialization Course - enroll through Sept. 14</a>
SEPT. 20	<a href="#">FUEL 2023</a>
OCT. 2	<a href="#">The 2024 Beaverton Startup Challenge Application Period is Now Open!</a>
OCT. 19-20	<a href="#">Bend Venture Conference</a>
OCT. 25	<a href="#">Biotech Summit at Twist Bioscience</a>

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## TECHNOLOGIES

### **Featured technologies available for licensing**

A selection of OHSU-developed technologies available for licensing to industry partners. For more technologies visit the [OHSU Technology Portal](#).

[OHSU 3194](#) - Rapid antibody conjugation technique



[OHSU 3063](#) - A method of enhancing cancer immunotherapies through androgen receptor modulation

[OHSU 3108](#) - De novo peptide sequencer

[OHSU 3112](#) - Meal detection and size estimation for artificial pancreas devices using machine learning

## Newly Licensed or Optioned OHSU Technologies

Congratulations to the inventors of these technologies, which were recently licensed or optioned to outside partners.

OHSU 0843 - Mutated ABL Kinase Domains ([Brian Druker, M.D.](#))

OHSU 1343 - Visual Field Modeling and Analysis (Richard Weleber, M.D.)

OHSU 1491 - Reading Center database and clinical trial research tool (Richard Weleber, M.D.)

[OHSU 1771](#) - Materials from the BioLibrary

[OHSU 2062](#) - Quantification of vascular abnormality with OCT angiography ([David Huang, M.D., Ph.D.](#) and [Yali Jia, Ph.D.](#))

OHSU 2161 - Advanced Image Processing of OCT angiography (David Huang, M.D., Ph.D. and Yali Jia, Ph.D.)

OHSU 2168 - Apparatus and Methods for Laser Thermal Conjunctivoplasty (David Huang, M.D., Ph.D.)

OHSU 2488 - Ba/F3 cell lines expressing highly-resistant BCR-ABL compound mutations (Brian Druker, M.D. and Christopher Eide)

OHSU 2964 - A first in class small molecule as a novel YB1 inhibitor (Dhanir Tailor, Ph.D. and [Sanjay Malhotra, Ph.D.](#))

OHSU 2966 - A custom 186 point grid for use in 3-D Hill of Vision analysis of retinal disease (Richard Weleber)

OHSU 3085 - Ba/F3 cell lines expressing BCR-ABL kinase domain mutations (Brian Druker, M.D.)

OHSU 3106 - Enantiomer of a novel YB1 inhibitor (Dhanir Tailor and Sanjay Malhotra, Ph.D.)

[OHSU 3142](#) - Improved removal of projection artifacts in optical coherence tomographic angiography ([Yali Jia, Ph.D.](#) and [Jie Wang](#))

OHSU 3145 - COOL Lab Optical Coherence Tomographic Angiography Reading Toolkit (COOL-ART) (Yukun Guo, Yali Jia, Ph.D., and [Jie Wang](#))

OHSU 3230 - A Resource to Study the Effect of Diet and Hyperandrogenemia on Different Primate Organ Systems ([Jon Hennebold, Ph.D.](#) and [Ov Slayden, Ph.D.](#))

OHSU 3242 - Pancreatic cancer tumor histology and clinical annotations (Dove Keith, Ph.D., [Terry Morgan, M.D., Ph.D.](#), [Rosalie Sears, Ph.D.](#), and Alison Wait)

OHSU 3243 - Ba/F3 cells expressing the BCR-ABL F317V mutant (Brian Druker and Christopher Eide)

OHSU 3244 - Ba/F3 cells expressing BCR-ABL myristoylation pocket mutations (Brian Druker and Christopher Eide)

OHSU 3283 - Tbr1-A136fs knock-in mice (Marissa Co, Ph.D., [Lev Fedorov, Ph.D.](#), Jennifer Jahncke, [Brian O'Roak, Ph.D.](#), and [Kevin Wright, Ph.D.](#))

## **U.S. Patents Issued**

Congratulations to the OHSU inventors of these recently issued U.S. patents.

[Patent 11,660,236](#) - Delivery systems for control of bleeding in transurethral prostatectomy

[Patent 11,676,719](#) - Subtyping heterogeneous disorders using functional random forest models

[Patent 11,679,082](#) - Therapeutic constructs for co-delivery of mitotic

kinase inhibitor and immune checkpoint inhibitor

[Patent 11,679,121](#) - Morpholino oligonucleotides useful in cancer treatment

[Patent 11,692,012](#) - Human cytomegalovirus comprising exogenous antigens

[Patent 11,701,453](#) - Dental pulp construct

[Patent 11,712,404](#) - Methacrylamide adhesive systems

[Patent 11,717,155](#) - Identifying retinal layer boundaries

[Patent 11,718,825](#) - Generation of human oocytes

[Patent 11,728,038](#) - Activity MRI

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Questions? Contact us at [innovates@ohsu.edu](mailto:innovates@ohsu.edu)

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