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## INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION

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September 10, 2025

# OHSU Innovates



## LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

At OHSU, our innovators work tirelessly to realize the full potential of their research discoveries. OHSU Innovates, along with our innovators, seeks to

be a resource for our legislators, donors, entrepreneurs, investors, and other partners who support economic development within the region and beyond. In the coming months you will find us at the Annual Startup Spotlight Expo hosted by Oregon Bioscience Incubator, the Oregon Bio Annual Conference hosted by Oregon Bioscience Association (OHSU's Summer Gibbs, Ph.D., is one of the finalists for the Bioscience Woman of the Year award!), Bend Venture Conference hosted by Economic Development for Central Oregon and Angel Oregon Life & Bioscience hosted by Oregon Entrepreneurs Network. We encourage you to come engage with us and our teams at these unique events hosted by our partners within the Oregon innovation community.

**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

### **Early Career Research Driving Diagnostic Breakthrough**



*Kenneth Riley with his mentor Thuy Ngo, Ph.D., at the 2025 OHSU Innovation Awards.*

How do you catch cancer before it takes hold? Ph.D. candidate [Kenneth Riley](#) may have an answer. With mentorship from [Thuy Ngo, Ph.D.](#), associate professor of Molecular and Medical Genetics and member of the Cancer Early Detection Advanced Research Center in the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute, Riley is developing a cutting-edge blood test that reads epigenetic signals to detect disease earlier and without invasive biopsies. As the Early Career Innovator Award winner of the 2025 OHSU Innovation Awards, his story is a powerful example of how bold ideas and strong mentorship thrive in OHSU's innovation ecosystem.

Riley will present his work, "Reconstruction of the Epigenetic Landscape from Fragmented DNA in Blood" as a fast pitch at the [2025 Oregon Bio](#)

[Annual Conference](#) on Tuesday, Sept 30. Don't miss this rising innovator in action.

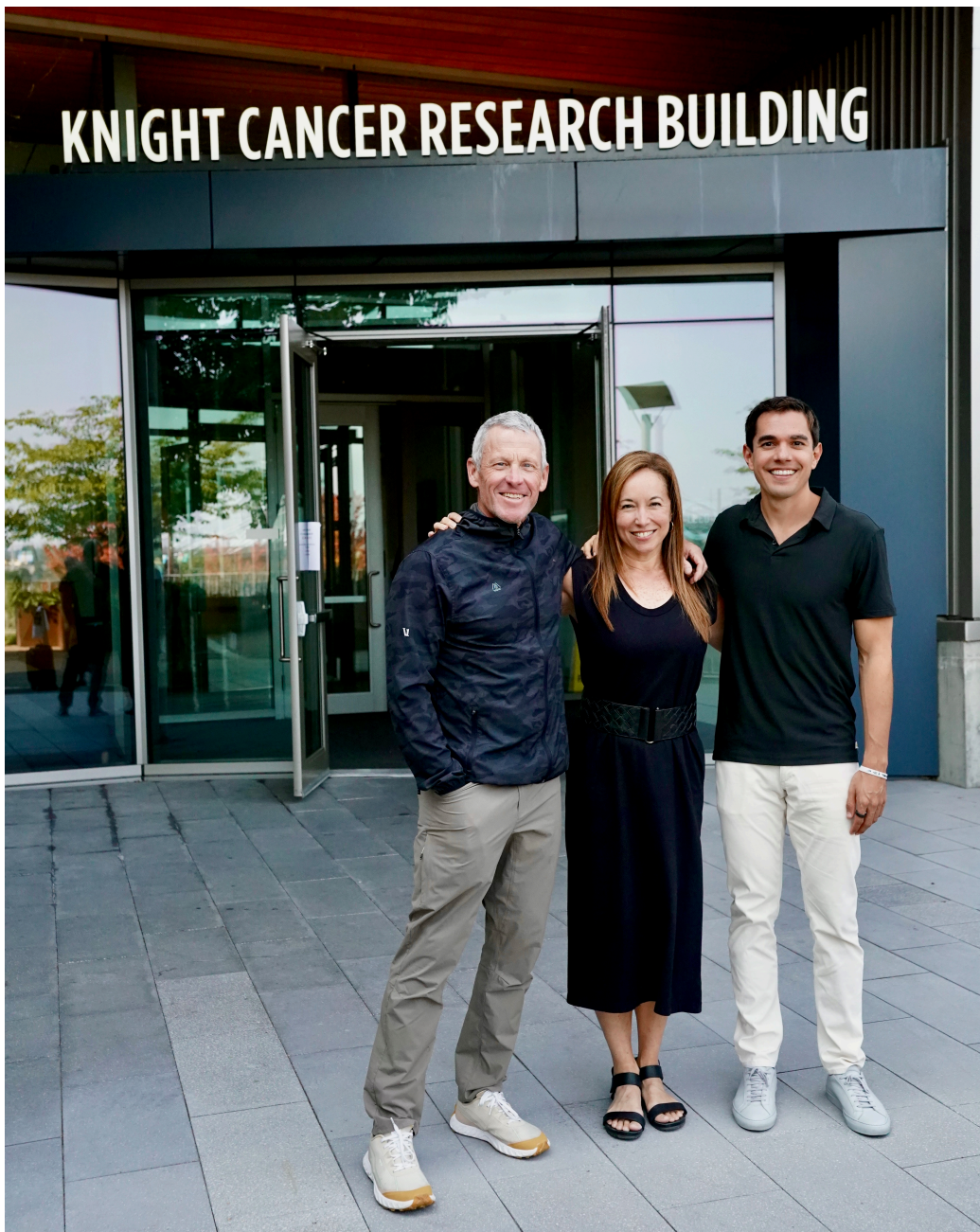
[Read the full press release from the OHSU](#)

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## FEATURED NEWS

### **Next Ventures visits OHSU**





*Lance Armstrong, Mel Strong and Jordan Pascasio outside the Knight Cancer Research Building on the OHSU South Waterfront campus in Portland (Courtesy of Liz Kreutz/[elizabethkreutz.com](http://elizabethkreutz.com))*

Lance Armstrong, Mel Strong and Jordan Pascasio from [Next Ventures](#) visited OHSU on Thursday, Sept. 4, to talk about partnership opportunities with faculty leaders and innovators. They met with OHSU President [Shereef Elnahal, M.D.](#), and Knight Cancer Group President [Brian Druker, M.D.](#), who shared how they're shaping the future of patient care. OHSU start-ups, [Trace Biosciences](#) and [OryGyn](#), were also part of the discussion, along with many other OHSU leaders, including OHSU School

of Medicine Dean [Nate Selden, M.D., Ph.D.](#), and Interim Chief Research Officer [Bonnie Nagel, Ph.D.](#)

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## OHSU Startup Summer Highlights

[SurgiVance Inc.](#) was awarded a \$2.25 million Phase II SBIR grant from the National Cancer Institute to advance its “lab-in-a-box” digital pathology platform. The device aims to deliver near-instant cancer diagnoses and is now entering clinical pilot studies in collaboration with OHSU and other institutions.

[Read the full press release.](#)

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[PDX Pharmaceuticals](#) successfully hit key milestones in its SBIR-funded project to develop PETTRA™ (PLK1 and EGFR Targeted Therapy and Radiation Sensitizer) a targeted therapy and radiation sensitizer for non-small cell lung cancer. As a result, the National Cancer Institute has issued a Notice of Award for approximately \$1.09 million, bringing the total grant funding to \$2.4 million for the OHSU startup.

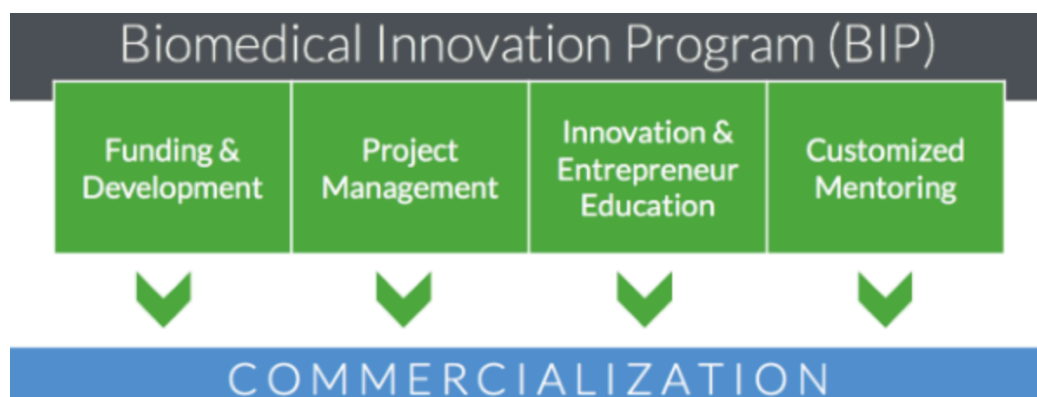
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[Ideaship, a venture capital firm by Global Technology Transfer Group](#), has invested in OHSU startup [Siloam Vision](#) to accelerate its AI-powered eye screening technology for newborns and children. Their FDA-designated breakthrough device, i-ROP DL, enables early diagnosis of retinopathy of prematurity through remote imaging, helping prevent avoidable blindness worldwide.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Apply now for the Biomedical Innovation Program Device, Diagnostic & Software Track



The OCTRI Biomedical Innovation Program (BIP) is now accepting Letters of Intent for its Device, Diagnostic and Software track, due Thursday, Sept. 18. This program helps researchers turn early-stage ideas into real products that can improve healthcare.

Projects can receive up to \$40,000 in funding, along with support from a project manager and mentor to help move the idea toward commercialization. Funded projects should aim to solve important medical problems, improve patient care, lower healthcare costs or make research more efficient.

Grants will be awarded through a competitive process. Selected projects will last 12 months and must meet specific goals along the way.

[See the Request for Applications for more information on how to apply.](#)

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# **Elevate your Ideas with the ASCEND Award**

The ASCEND Award supports bold, practical ideas that aim to make a real-world impact, both in the community and in the professional growth of OHSU innovators.

Open to current OHSU members, this quarterly funding opportunity offers up to \$4,000 to help move innovative projects forward. Funding can be used for a wide range of activities, such as attending innovation-related training, traveling to relevant conferences, building prototypes or purchasing materials.

The next proposal deadline is Tuesday, Sept 30.

Read the full [Request for Proposals](#) for more information and the [Application Form](#) to apply (OHSU username and login required).

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## **Pitch at the new TiE Oregon Collegiate Startup Challenge**



TiE Oregon presents:

A statewide competition showcasing startups  
from campus, to investment.



The Collegiate Startup Challenge is a new, statewide pitch competition from [TiE Oregon](#) for student, faculty and alumni founders from colleges and universities across Oregon and SW Washington. Participants will pitch their startups for a chance to win equity investment, cash prizes and in-kind services, while gaining mentorship and exposure to the region's startup ecosystem. Applications are open through Friday, Oct. 10. Visit the [TiE Collegiate Startup Challenge website](#) to learn more and apply.

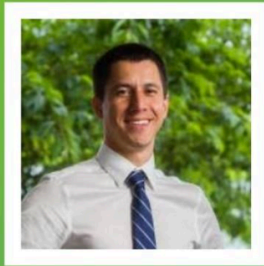
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FEATURED EVENT

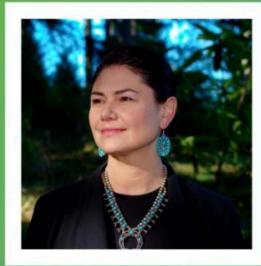
# Making it to Market: Strategies That Work

OHSU INNOVATES

## Making it to Market: Strategies that Work



Luiz Bertassoni, D.D.S., Ph.D.  
OHSU



Rachel Dreilinger  
NeuraMedica



Philippe Marchand, Ph.D.  
OHSU

Oct. 3  
9 to 10 a.m. PDT  
Free Online Seminar



Bringing healthcare innovations to market takes strategy, resilience, and adaptability. In this online seminar, a panel of experienced health and medical innovators will share how they have navigated the journey from early ideas to real-world impact. Designed for early-stage innovators, the discussion offers practical insights, key lessons and candid advice to help you clarify your goals, anticipate challenges and plan your next steps.

Panelists include [Luiz E. Bertassoni, D.D.S., Ph.D.](#), founding director of the Knight Cancer Precision Biofabrication Hub and professor at the division of oncological sciences, and professor in the department of oral rehabilitation and integrative biosciences in the School of Dentistry, [Rachel Dreilinger](#), co-founder and CEO of [NeuraMedica](#), and [Philippe Marchand](#),

[Ph.D.](#), program director in OHSU Cancer Early Detection Advanced Research Center in the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute.

Part of the BIP Corp Biomedical Innovation Commercialization Readiness Program, this session is free and open to all.

[Register for this event through Zoom.](#)

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<b>WHEN</b>	<b>Friday, Oct. 3</b> 9-10 a.m. PDT
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<b>WHERE</b>	<b>Virtual</b>
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<b>WHO</b>	Open to All
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<b>COST</b>	Free
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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<b>Thursday, Sept. 11</b>	<a href="#">OBI Annual Startup Spotlight Expo</a>
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<b>Wednesday, Sept. 17</b>	<a href="#">Bio Impact - Portland</a>
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<b>Thursday, Sept. 18</b>	<a href="#">OEN Pitch, Please - Live in Vancouver</a>
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<b>Monday, Sept. 29 - Tuesday, Sept. 30</b>	<a href="#">Oregon Bio Annual Conference 2025</a>
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<b>Wednesday, Oct. 1</b>	<a href="#">ICONS Film Tour &amp; Panel</a>
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**Friday, Oct. 3**     [Making it to Market: Strategies That Work](#)

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**Wednesday, Oct. 8**     [OEN October PubTalk: Founder Horror Stories](#)

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**Thursday, Nov. 13**     [2025 Oregon Entrepreneurship Awards](#)

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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 2626](#) - New method of targeted sequencing using CRISPR-Cas12a-mediated capture of nucleic acids

[OHSU 3127](#) - A microcontroller for easier whole-cell patch clamping on dendrites and axons

[OHSU 3133](#) - An OCT method to improve scleral lens fitting

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### Newly Licensed or Optioned OHSU Technologies

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

[OHSU 1162-A](#) - The Pacific Northwest Anti-Inflammatory Reference Cookbook

[OHSU 1740](#) - Tinnitus Functional Index

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

OHSU 3078 - Cerebrotendinous xanthomatosis biological materials repository

OHSU 3252 - Kidney-targeting AAV capsids and methods of use thereof

OHSU 3395 - 2-Aryl-Quinolones with enhanced antimalarial activity in vitro and in vivo

## U.S. Patents Issued

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

[Patent 12,370,090](#) - Narrow-orifice foreign body extraction device

[Patent 12,379,586](#) - Techniques for sensorless adaptive optics optical coherence tomography

[Patent 12,398,110](#) - Second generation inhibitors of mitochondrial permeability transition pore with improved plasma stability

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SPONSORS



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



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

This bi-monthly publication is created in collaboration with OHSU Technology Transfer, OHSU Collaborations and Entrepreneurship, Oregon Clinical and Translational Research Institute and the Knight Cancer Institute.

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