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INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION

November 4, 2026

OHSU Innovates

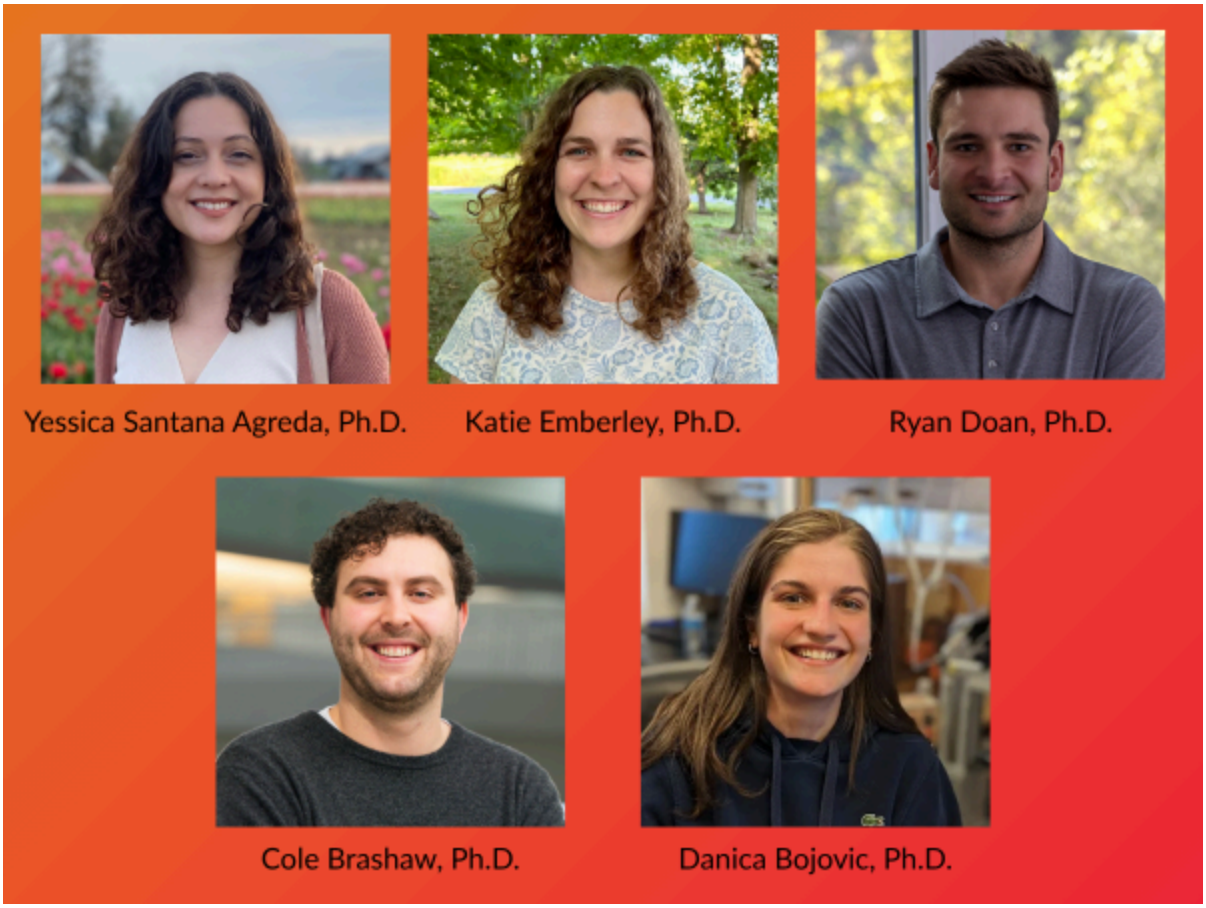


This month's issue highlights the many ways innovation takes shape at OHSU, from graduates and trainees taking the next step in their careers to programs that are improving lives and earning international recognition. Together, these accomplishments reflect the talent, dedication and collaborative spirit that continue to drive innovation across our institution and beyond.

The opportunities, events and resources featured below highlight new ways to engage with and contribute to Oregon's innovation community and advance discoveries that improve health and well-being across the globe.

FEATURED STORY

Innovation and Commercialization Interns Reach New Career Milestones



Five current and former interns in the OHSU Innovation and Commercialization Internship Program recently reached major career milestones, translating years of scientific training and real-world commercialization experience into new roles spanning technology transfer, industry partnerships, intellectual property consulting and academic research.

In recent months, Yessica Santana Agreda, Ph.D., joined intellectual property law firm Klarquist Sparkman LLP as a technical consultant. At the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Katie Emberley, Ph.D., joined as an industry partnerships project manager, while Ryan Doan, Ph.D., became a licensing associate. Cole Brashaw, Ph.D., began a technology transfer fellowship at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and Danica Bojovic, Ph.D., joined Collège de France as a postdoctoral scholar.

All five earned Ph.D. degrees through OHSU's Neuroscience Graduate Program between 2024 and 2026. Their recent appointments reflect the variety of career paths available to scientists interested in technology transfer, intellectual property, research commercialization and industry engagement, while showcasing the talent emerging from Oregon's research community.

OHSU Innovates congratulates Bojovic, Brashaw, Doan, Emberley and Santana Agreda on their accomplishments and wishes them continued success in their new roles.

Interested in pursuing a similar career path? Applications for the 2027-2028 OHSU Innovation and Commercialization Internship Program are now open through Jan. 17, 2027. See the announcement below for details.

FEATURED NEWS

NICH Program Wins International Award



Photo: Michael Harris, Ph.D., and Kim Spiro, Ph.D., co-founders of the Novel Interventions in Children's Healthcare (NICH) program.

The Novel Interventions in Children's Healthcare (NICH) program at OHSU has been named the winner of the 2026 ISPAD Prize for Innovation in Pediatric Diabetes Care, an international award recognizing innovations that improve health and quality of care for children and young people living with diabetes.

Co-founded by Michael Harris, Ph.D., professor of pediatrics, and Kim Spiro, Ph.D., associate professor of pediatrics, NICH helps children and families navigate the real-world challenges that can make managing chronic health conditions difficult, including housing instability, food insecurity, transportation barriers and limited access to care.

The community- and home-based program connects families with dedicated interventionists who provide support, advocacy and care coordination. By addressing social drivers of health, NICH has improved outcomes for youth with diabetes while reducing health care costs, increasing access to diabetes technology and decreasing missed clinic appointments.

The award adds to a growing list of recognitions for NICH, including the American Diabetes Association's 2023 Innovation Challenge, the Press Ganey Pediatric Excellence Award and the Association of American Medical Colleges Clinical Innovation Award.

Harris will accept the award on behalf of NICH at the 52nd Annual International Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes Conference, scheduled for Nov. 4-7 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

OHSU Innovates congratulates Harris, Spiro and the entire NICH team on this achievement and their continued efforts to improve outcomes for children and families facing complex health challenges.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gain Hands-On Experience Supporting Innovation

Applications are now open for the 2027-2028 OHSU Innovation and Commercialization Internship Program, a hands-on training experience for individuals interested in technology transfer, business development, intellectual property and research commercialization.

The yearlong program provides participants with real-world experience supporting the development and commercialization of OHSU innovations while working alongside professionals in technology transfer and business development. Interns help evaluate emerging technologies, assess commercial opportunities and support efforts to advance discoveries from the laboratory to the marketplace.

As highlighted in the accompanying story, internship alumni and current interns have recently advanced to careers spanning technology transfer, industry partnerships, intellectual property and academic research.

Applications are due Sunday, Jan. 17, 2027. Selected applicants will be invited to interview in February 2027, and the next internship cohort is expected to begin in April 2027.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to attend a virtual Information Session and Q&A on Wednesday, Dec. 16, or an Application Q&A / Office Hours session on

Thursday, Jan. 7, 2027. The Dec. 16 session will be recorded and made available to prospective applicants who are unable to attend live.

Learn more about the program, application process and upcoming information sessions here.

Applications Open for CAILHS Innovation Academy and Pitch Competition

The OHSU Center for AI-Enabled Learning Health Science (CAILHS) is accepting applications for its 2026-2027 Innovation Academy and Pitch Competition. Open to OHSU faculty, staff, trainees and collaborators, the program helps multidisciplinary teams develop solutions to improve patient care, clinical operations, education and research.

Selected teams will participate in the Innovation Academy in January, receiving mentorship, skill-building workshops and support to advance their projects. Up to three teams will receive a CAILHS Innovation Academy Award, which may include executive sponsorship, technology transfer consultation, implementation support, mentorship and other institutional resources.

Applications are due Tuesday, Dec. 1. Finalists will be announced Friday, Dec. 18 and will present their projects at the Innovation Academy Pitch Finals and Award Ceremony on Feb. 18, 2027.

A recording of the recent AI-Enabled Learning Health Science at OHSU seminar featuring CAILHS co-directors David Dorr, M.D., M.S., and Jeff Gold, M.D., is also available.

Learn more about the Innovation Academy and access application materials.
Watch the AI-Enabled Learning Health Science seminar recording.

Women Academic Innovators Encouraged to Apply for Equalize Startups

Women researchers, inventors, postdoctoral scholars and graduate students interested in entrepreneurship are encouraged to apply to Equalize Startups, a

nonprofit program that helps women founders in academia advance innovations beyond the lab through mentorship, training and networking.

Participants receive support tailored to their innovations through tracks in therapeutics, medical devices, digital health/software and physical sciences.

Katie Blise, Ph.D., an OHSU computational biologist, participated in the program's 2026 cohort, where she presented Nebulex, a software platform designed to help researchers analyze complex spatial biology data.

Applications for the 2027 cohorts are due Friday, Nov. 13.

Learn more about the program and application process.

BioBuild Program Accepting Applications for Inaugural Cohort

Early-stage Oregon bioscience companies are invited to apply for BioBuild, a new eight-week commercialization program developed by the Oregon Bioscience Incubator. Designed for companies with a defined technology and early proof of concept, the program combines expert-led instruction, dedicated mentorship and hands-on guidance to help founders strengthen their path to market.

The inaugural cohort launches Jan. 12, 2027 and is limited to 10 Oregon bioscience companies. Applications close Friday, Nov. 20, or when 10 qualifying companies have been selected, whichever comes first.

Learn more about BioBuild and apply here.

IN MEMORIAM

Remembering Brenna Rauw

It is with sadness that we share news of the passing of Brenna Rauw, who served as OHSU's Vice President of Technology Transfer and Business Development from 2015 to 2018. Throughout her career, she was an advocate for innovation, entrepreneurship and the life sciences community. Our thoughts are with her family, friends and all who knew her.

FEATURED EVENTS

Save the Date: Oregon Innovation Showcase Returns in May 2027



The Oregon Innovation Showcase will return to Portland on May 10-11, 2027, bringing together founders, researchers, entrepreneurs, investors and innovation

ecosystem partners from across the state. The annual event highlights emerging companies, new technologies and the collaborations helping drive Oregon's innovation economy.
Registration opens in November, with additional details on speakers and programming to be announced in the coming months. Members of the OHSU innovation community are encouraged to save the date.

Learn more about the Oregon Innovation Showcase.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, Nov. 5	OBI November Accelerate Biotech Happy Hour
Thursday, Nov. 5	OEN November Entrepreneur Mixer: Vancouver
Thursday, Nov. 12	2026 Oregon Entrepreneurship Awards (OEN)
Monday, Nov. 16-Tuesday, Nov. 17	Lean Six Sigma: Yellow Belt Training (OLS)
Monday, Nov. 16-Thursday, Nov. 19	Financial Skills for Non-Finance People (OLS)
Tuesday, Nov. 17	OEN November Pitch, Please
Thursday, Nov. 19	Oregon Bio Women Meetup: Corvallis
Thursday, Nov. 19	Bio in the Valley

Tuesday, Dec. 1	Startup Business Essentials: Gain Clarity and Build Your 2027 Roadmap (OEN)
Thursday, Dec. 3	OBI December Accelerate Biotech Happy Hour
Monday, Dec. 7	2026 Angel Oregon Life & Bioscience: Investment Announcement Mixer
Wednesday, Dec. 9	OEN December PubTalk: Wrap Up 2026: Building, Backing & Beyond
Tuesday, Dec. 15	OEN December Pitch, Please
Tuesday, Dec. 15-Thursday, Dec. 17	Design of Experiments (OLS)
Wednesday, Dec. 16	OMIC R&D Interactive Insights Session: Portland

TECHNOLOGIES

OHSU-developed technologies are available for licensing to industry partners. For a list of available technologies, visit the OHSU Technology Portal.

Newly Licensed or Optioned OHSU Technologies

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

OHSU 1740 - Tinnitus Functional Index
OHSU 1771 - Materials from the BioLibrary
OHSU 3194 - Rapid antibody conjugation technique
OHSU 3344 - AAV epsilon (AAVe) family
OHSU 3428 - Clinical assessment outcomes instrument to assess the severity of pyoderma gangrenosum

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U.S. Issued Patents

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

Patent 12,721,907 - Cobalt-doped iron oxide nanoparticles and methods for making and using
Patent 12,729,177 - Small molecules promoting sympathetic nerve regeneration
Patent 12,733,987 - Device for anatomical sensing system-guided endorectal prostate biopsy
Patent 12,734,241 - Bisphosphonate-linked compounds
Patent 12,741,116 - Gas-driven, pressure-regulated ventilator
Patent 12,766,131 - Compositions and methods for treating prostate cancer
Patent 12,776,029 - Systems and methods for generating biomarker activation maps

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Questions? Contact us at innovates@ohsu.edu

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