

Office of Commercialization and Industrial Relations (OCIR) Activity Summary

Mission

The mission of the Office of Commercialization and Industrial Relations (OCIR) is to coordinate the university's commercialization and industry activities, to enhance and promote its applied research and development activities, assist in the capture of commercial research and development funding, to enhance the University's entrepreneurial platform, and to provide resources for the support and enhancement of 'education with relevance'.

Overview

The OCIR was established by combining the Office of Technology Commercialization, the Center for Research Commercialization and the Institute for Environmental and Industrial Science (and its centers) in 2010. The OCIR is structured to permit the utmost flexibility and be able to respond to commercial and industrial opportunities.

The OCIR completed its third year of operations. The processes for industrial contracts, Invention Disclosures, filing patents are well established, and the OCIR's overarching objectives are being met.



Industry Activity

- Contacted and coordinated meetings with Texas State researchers and industrial partners for possible collaborations.
- Worked with faculty and staff to identify innovations, commercial opportunities and funding possibilities
- Provided faculty and staff the current Texas State policies and procedures to work with industries.

Contracts

- University Industry Partnership Agreements established to combine the resources and talents of the University and the Industry Partner to establish a long-term research, development and commercialization partnership.
- Reviewed and negotiated the terms and conditions for industry related agreements such as Nondisclosures, Sponsor Research Agreements, University Industry Partnership and Service or Testing Agreements.
- The OCIR worked closely with the Office of Sponsored Programs and TSUS legal office to ensure that the terms of research contracts support the university mission and do not hinder academic freedom.
- The OCIR worked closely with the Office of Research Compliance to ensure that we are in compliance with Federal and State law and University policies.

Over the past three years, Texas State collaborations with private industry were increased. The results of industry activities since its inception in 2010 include:

- 18 Sponsor Research,
- 5 University Industry Partnership,
- 7 Service or Testing Agreements and
- 76 Nondisclosure Agreements were signed.

The following is the list of companies has collaborations since 2010:

- ABB Corporate Research Center
- Advanced Materials and Processes
- CISNE Enterprises, Inc.
- CM Energies
- Dewberry
- DxUpclose
- Huntsman
- IDL
- Imaginestics
- JSJ Technologies
- McCormic & Company
- MicroPower Global Corporation
- Nanohmics
- National Nanomaterials LLC
- Optech
- Physical Sciences, Inc.
- Quantum Materials Corp.
- SEMATECH, Inc.
- Semiconductor Research Corporation
- SMRC
- Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing.
- TapeSolar Inc.
- Texas High Energy Materials
- Texas Instruments Incorporated
- Thermon
- US Ferriocs. LLC
- Vision Systems International LLC
- Weir Group PLC
- ZNYX Networks, Inc.

Intellectual Property (IP) Management and Commercialization

- Contacted, discussed and encouraged Texas State researchers and assisted with invention disclosure forms to submit and fill a provisional patent very quickly to initiate protection.
- Contacted, negotiated and signed agreement(s) with outside entities for market analysis and patentability of the disclosures.
- Arranged a presentation on “Basic Concepts of Intellectual Property and Commercialization” by TreMonti Consulting, LLC to provide basic info about commercialization to faculty and students.
- Coordinated with the inventors, outside entities and IP Committee to determine filing decision for patent applications. Always kept the inventor informed of all actions related to their disclosure.
- Contacted and negotiated with outside counsel to file patent applications and resolve litigations between faculty and the industrial partners.
- Contacted and presented available technologies to companies as appropriate



The results of commercialization activities since its inception in May 2010 include:

- 44 Invention Disclosures were received.
- 19 Provisional Patents and 7 full Patent Applications were filled.
- Two companies were formed.
- Two Licensing Agreements were signed.

Year-end Statistics With Comparison to Prior Years (Table 1)

Metric	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13
Invention Disclosures	7	12	12	13
Provisional Applications Filled	2	7	5	5
Patents Applications Filled	1	1	3	2
Licensing Agreements	0	1	1	0

Support of Research Initiative

The OCIR/Formosa Plastics Professorship (Formosa Professorship) was established to recognize a tenured faculty member's scholarly contributions at Texas State University–San Marcos toward multidisciplinary scientific and technological solutions of industrial and environmental problems. Per the MOU establishing the Formosa Professorship, candidates may be from a variety of backgrounds including Biology, Chemistry & Biochemistry, Economics, Engineering Technology, Finance, Geography, the Materials Science, Engineering and Commercialization Program, the School of Engineering, and Physics, as well as growing university centers, programs and schools that will develop at Texas State University in the future.

Dr. Gary Beall, Professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry has been selected through a competitive process based in part on his applied research efforts pertinent to the OCIR as the inaugural Formosa Professor effective September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2014. The associated Formosa Plastics Corporation Faculty Fellowship yearly provides a research stipend of \$12,000 that can be used to cover teaching expenditures (course release with prior approval of the department chair), research expenditures or to supplement salary.

Economic and Entrepreneurial Outreach

The RampCorp was launched in 2010. This is an incubation and training program for women entrepreneurs launching their first scalable business. Women who are or who want to be entrepreneurs receive coaching from experienced investors, executives, inventors, and other women entrepreneurs who have built scalable ventures. RampCorp uses “The Ramps” curriculum to advance both the knowledge and skills necessary for high-growth venture launches.

In addition to training, RampCorp will help cities, economic development offices and universities launch women's scalable entrepreneurship training programs using The Ramps curriculum. RampCorp assistance includes developing funding, providing in-kind support, mapping regional entrepreneurship support programs, marketing, recruiting and providing trainers if needed. Some of the accomplishments:

- 40 women-led companies launched or accelerated in the program
- Several have revenue and have hired employees (totaling over 15 new employees and \$7 Million in revenue)
- 1 SBIR Phase 1 and Phase 2 awarded
- North American finalist for the International Cartier business competition
- 1 chosen as Top 50 startups by Kauffman during Global Entrepreneurship Week 2011
- 1 highlighted in the Whitehouse blog as top 12 women-led startups
- Winner of the Rice and RISE pitch competition
- 5 have moved into local incubators
- 2 of 5 finalists at the IBM Smart Camp 2011
- 3 Technology licensees and others in process
- 6 new patent applications

Development of Unique Incubator Facility



Construction of the 38 acre Science, Technology and Advanced Research (STAR Park), financed through a three-way partnership with the city of San Marcos, Texas State University, and a \$1.85M award from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), was completed in November 2012. The first building, STAR One, is a 20,000 sq. ft. unique facility designed to meet the need for wet labs in central Texas. It also serves as an incubator and accelerator for Texas State University spin-outs as well as spin-ins from outside Texas State. Currently, four start-ups are located in the building with negotiations underway with additional start-ups.

OCIR and STAR Park work closely in the following areas of different aspects of commercialization activities:

- Encourage technology commercialization from public investment in research
- Stimulate the formation of new technology or innovation focused businesses in the State.
- Stimulate economic development and competitiveness in San Marcos, Hays County and the State of Texas, through collaborations with regional and state entities.
- Establish Texas State and the State of Texas as recognized centers for technology commercialization and innovation.

Due to the OCIR and STAR Park overlapping activities relative to commercialization, the directors and AVPR has been meeting weekly to discuss the delineation of responsibilities and to coordinate the commercialization efforts. In addition to our organizational discussions, a number of steps have been taken to ensure strong operational communications. The Executive Director of STAR Park was added to the Intellectual Property Committee for OCIR and Director, Commercialization Services serves as a member of the STAR Park Advisory Committee.

Student Entrepreneurship

In collaboration with the McCoy College of Business Administration and the college of Science and Engineering, doctoral students from the Materials Science, Engineering and Commercialization (MSEC) program have the opportunity to compete for startup office and laboratory space in STAR One. Student-led teams selected through an internal business plan

completion are given access to MBA students and specialized space where they can explore new products and processes with the potential of creating new enterprises.

Other Initiatives

STAR Park, OCIR and MSEC program hosted a meeting of the Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International (SEMI) Texas chapter on February 15, 2013. A total of 22 firms attended the event. The outcome has been a request from SEMI that we develop a more formal relationship with the Texas chapter which will result in at least one event per year at the Texas State campus.

STAR Park Forum

Texas State University and the Greater San Marcos Partnership arranged a half day forum to explore Texas State University's STAR Park.