NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

INVO | Innovation and New Ventures Office

2012 DECEMBER NEWS

Northwestern's Products Reach Market Milestones

Aurasense Established in 2009 by Professors Mirkin (Weinberg) and Thaxton (Feinberg).

Launched in the market through Aurasense's partner, Millipore, *SmartFlare™ RNA Detection Probes* allows for live cell RNA detection in a single incubation step using inert nanoparticle technology to specifically detect native RNA.

Northwestern Global Health Foundation (NGHF) *Established in 2010 by Professors Kelso (McC) and Kara Paramountain (Kellogg).*

NGHF is starting clinical trials in Maputo, Mozambique, for an HIV test developed at Northwestern University which differs dramatically from conventional tests that are complex and slow to produce results. The first-of-its-kind test will deliver a diagnosis in less than an hour while mother and child are still in the clinic-- dramatically improving the rates in which infected infants are diagnosed and treated.

INVO Events

■ Through a collaborative effort between INVO, McCormick, and the Department of Chemistry, a ***Physical Science Investor Conference*** was organized on November 2. The format was simple—no keynotes or panels, just a series of short presentations from several Northwestern startups as well as researchers who shared some emerging disruptive projects. This opportunity provided an early look at some of the exciting things coming down the pike at Northwestern. Over 50 people from venture capital firms, angel firms, and Northwestern community attended.

■ INVO organized a ***Commercialization Seminar on Commercializing Healthcare Mobile Apps***. Dietrich Kappe and Todd Wyder of *Pathfinders Software* led the seminar sharing how to apply lean innovation techniques to identify business opportunities in the healthcare IT space and how to successfully exploit them. A follow-up ***Commercialization Clinic*** focused on Healthcare Mobile Apps is scheduled for early 2013. Commercialization Clinics are offered by INVO for faculty who have ideas/inventions at any stage and would like help/feedback from experts in the field.

Other INVO News...

Northwestern University ranked 10th (up from 16th last year) in the annual Patent Power 2012 analysis of the IEEE (Institue of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) Spectrum

Announcing a New Initiative called ***Center for Device Development (CD2)*** Stay tuned for a new one-year fellowship open to physicians and engineers to create, develop, and commercialize medical devices. http://cd2.northwestern.edu

David Tiemeier, Sr. Director at INVO, participated as a speaker in the Dec. 11 Bio-World Webinar: Opportunities & Challenges in Designing Deals between Biotechs and University TTOs.

INVO's own Invention Manager, Maryam Saleh, was awarded a scholarship from Women in Bio (WIB), an organization of professionals committed to promoting careers, leadership, and entrepreneurship of women in the life sciences.

Faculty Startups Formed

NuGen Polymers

John Torkelson, McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science, Department of Chemical & Biological Engineering

NuGen Polymers produces high-value plastics from recycled materials. Their process allows them to mix polymers and other materials that are not possible to combine otherwise by conventional, commercial methods. They were recently awarded an SBIR grant.

Scimplicity

Jian Cao, McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science, Department of Mechanical Engineering

Scimplicity LLC offers a new method of rapid prototyping which is faster and more efficient than current prototyping technology. The new technology is a solution for obviating the need for large molds which have high costs and require large storage facilities over indefinite time periods. By having a machine that can bend metal in any number of customizable configurations, the user can essentially make any shape they want without a premade mold for that specific shape. Scimplicity was recently awarded an SBIR grant.

NuMat Technologies

Randall Snurr, McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science, Department of Chemical & Biological Engineering and Joseph Hupp, Weinberg School of Arts & Sciences, Department of Chemistry

NuMat Technologies, Inc. designs and synthesizes high performing nanomaterials called metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) for gas storage and separation applications. Formed in the NUvention Energy course, the student team has won over $1M in awards over the past calendar year.

Major Licensing Revenue Landmark Achieved

By the end of 2012, INVO will have brought in a cumulative licensing revenue of over $1.3B to NU.

New Agreements by INVO

14 Biogen, Cook Medical, Boehinger & others

Naurex successfully completes a $38M round of funding, an effort led by Baxter and Adams Street Partners.

INVO welcomes Matt Martin!

Matt Martin recently joined INVO as an Invention Manager. He is primarily focused on working with faculty in physical sciences and engineering and is looking to use his extensive expertise to further support NU's energy technologies. Notably, Matt was Director of Business and Technology Development at Electrochaea, a renewable fuels startup. He was also an entrepreneur-in-residence at Nidus Partners and was a licensing manager at University of Chicago's tech transfer office. Matt earned a B.A. from Goshen College in Math and Physics, and a Ph.D. from Carnegie Mellon in theoretical particle physics and cosmology.

NU Startup Recognition

Three NU startups won Chicago Innovation "Up-and-Comer Awards" this fall- ***Northwestern Global Health Foundation***, ***NuMat Technologies***, and ***BriteSeed***.

Narrative Science won the Ventana Research Technology Innovation Award in Business Analytics.

For more information, visit INVO at www.invo.northwestern.edu or contact Sonia Kim (sonia.kim@northwestern.edu). Follow us on Twitter (@NUatINVO)