STAIR Grant Program
2015-16

Presented By:
Venture Catalyst
Office of Research
Agenda

• Overview of Venture Catalyst and TMCR
• STAIR Program Overview
  • Program Intent and Objectives
  • Eligible Projects and Applicants
  • Grant Funding and Timeline
  • Review Criteria
  • Requirements for Grant Winners
• Previous STAIR Grant Awardees
• Other Venture Catalyst Programs
• Additional Details and Contact Information
• Q & A
Technology Management & Corporate Relations (TMCR)

InnovationAccess - Venture Catalyst - Office of Corporate Relations

Office of Research

Cindy Kiel
Exec Associate Vice Chancellor

Dushyant Pathak
Associate Vice Chancellor, TMCR

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Associate Vice Chancellor

Technology Management & Corporate Relations

CHILD FAMILY INSTITUTE FOR INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Innovation Access
Stewards University intellectual property and implements and manages IP agreements and technology transactions

Venture Catalyst
Catalyzes the commercial translation of University research through effective enablement of startups and new ventures

Corporate Relations
Develops, fosters and manages long-term strategic relationships with industry partners across University units & disciplines
STAIR Grant Program Intent and Objectives

• *Support translational science and innovative research* with targeted funding for UC Davis researchers

• *Help move UC Davis technology towards commercialization* by funding the generation of research results to create more robust foundational IP and improve funding prospects for startups

• *Stimulate entrepreneurial activity* powered by technological advances at UC Davis

• *Spur more research and innovation in Davis and the surrounding region* by helping to grow infrastructure to support other entrepreneurial ventures
STAIR Grant Features and Benefits

• Funds early-stage translational research / prototyping not eligible for other grants

• Review panel includes external industry participants (e.g., R&D staff in companies, investors), providing both technical and business/commercialization expertise

• Program provides all applicants with summarized comments from reviewers (~1-2 pages), with a particular emphasis on commercialization potential

• For finalists, program provides access to mentors from industry for finalists who wish to avail themselves of mentors’ expertise

• Program provides grant winners with mentor support throughout the year
Eligible Projects and Applicants

• Eligible Projects
  – Research that is past the fundamental research stage, but still requires basic proof-of-concept to demonstrate commercial feasibility
  – Technology that has demonstrated successful results in the research environment, but still requires a specific, targeted demonstration, test result, or prototype in support of commercialization activities

• Eligible Applicants
  – Anyone with PI status at UC Davis is eligible to apply for a STAIR Grant
  – Post-doctoral scholars and university staff are eligible to apply as Co-PIs
Grant Program: Funding and Timeline

- **Grant Awards and Allowable Costs**
  - Up to $50,000 per award; total of $250,000 available
  - Direct costs only—supplies, reagents, small equipment
  - No capital equipment (equipment equal to or greater than $5,000)
  - Salary support for post-docs and technical research staff only*
    - Up to 20% of awarded funds may be used for salary support (including benefits) for most projects
    - Exception: IP-enabling software development—up to $10,000 of awarded budget can be applied to salary support (including benefits) for software development personnel

- **Timeline**
  - RFP release date: March 11, 2016
  - Application deadline: April 11, 2016
  - Notice of award: On or around July 1, 2016

* See RFP for salary allowances for projects with software development component
Review Criteria*

• Technical Merit Examples
  – Unmet need, potential customers, potential end users
  – Scientific / technical competencies of the team
  – Description of IP status of technology and any concerns

• Budget, Milestones, and Proof-of-Concept Examples
  – Expected outcome of work and how it will move technology closer to commercialization
  – Steps anticipated to commercialization
  – Timeframe and budget for accomplishing work, with milestones and potential problems identified
  – Justification for how proposed milestones will be achievable given requested budget

• Commercial Potential Examples
  – Market niche, competitive landscape
  – How proposed technology is better than that currently on the market
  – Fit of project technology with market opportunity and investor interest

* See RFP document for complete list of criteria
Requirements for Grant Winners

• Mentor engagement
  – Prior to grant funds disbursement, awardees must meet with assigned mentor (facilitated by Venture Catalyst) to discuss ability to meet milestones given project budget and timelines
    – Researcher and mentor agree upon current existing research plan, or develop proposed modifications to project
    – Funding disbursed upon sign-off by Venture Catalyst related to project milestones, budget, and timelines
  – During research term, researchers and mentors meet at least quarterly

• Reporting requirements—progress reports required at 6 months and 1 year from time of funds disbursement

• Symposium requirement—required participation at year-end STAIR Grant Symposium (20 minute presentation)
### Previous STAIR Grant Award Winners: 2014-15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position and Department</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aijun Wang</td>
<td>Assistant professor, Department of Surgery</td>
<td>“A sutureless artificial graft for arterial replacement”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wenbin Deng</td>
<td>Associate professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine</td>
<td>“A drug candidate for the treatment of multiple sclerosis”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Levenson</td>
<td>Professor and Vice Chair, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine</td>
<td>“Deep UV surface excitation microscopy (MUSE)”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tingrui Pan</td>
<td>Assistant professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering</td>
<td>“Wearable pressure sensor for the management of chronic venous disease”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Voss</td>
<td>Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine</td>
<td>“A novel approach for early detection of Alzheimer’s disease”</td>
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## Previous STAIR Grant Award Winners: 2013-14

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<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
<th><strong>Department and Position</strong></th>
<th><strong>Project Description</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charles Hunt</td>
<td>Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering</td>
<td>“Low-cost, high-quality energy-efficient light sources using field-emission lighting”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jared Shaw</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry</td>
<td>“A new class of antibiotics for treating infections resistant to current therapies”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyria Boundy-Mills</td>
<td>Research Specialist, Department of Food Science and Technology</td>
<td>“Structure and activities of biosurfactants produced through a renewable, yeast-based, reduced cost process”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Mascal</td>
<td>Professor, Department of Chemistry</td>
<td>“Simple, high-yield production of gasoline and renewable polymers from biomass”</td>
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Smart Toolkit for Accelerated Research Translation
START™ provides the ABCs (Attorney, Banking, and Company formation resources) to equip UC Davis entrepreneurs with the tools they need to form and grow prosperous companies. Some of the offerings of START™ include:

- **Inventor Advantage™ Program**: Deferment of patent expenses to UC Davis startups
- **LegalNet™**: Incorporation and one-time consultative services, no strings attached
- **MentorNet™**: Access to a network of experienced professionals and business leaders
- **VentureNet™**: Commercial bank, human resources, business vendors, and contract service providers
- **DRIVE™**: Distributed Research Incubation and Venture Engine; provides access to incubation facilities for university startups
- **SBIR/STTR application workshop**: Run in collaboration with qb3
- **Workshops/Pitch Coaching**: Pitch decks, executive summaries, coaching, connections
- **Entrepreneurship Academies**: Cosponsored by Venture Catalyst & developed and managed by the Child Family Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Additional information

• Please visit the STAIR Grant Program web page for detailed program information, including eligibility requirements, application procedures, and more: http://research.ucdavis.edu/offices/vc/stair/

• Questions? Contact us
  • STAIR Grant Program (stairgrant@ucdavis.edu)
  • Venture Catalyst: Gina Durante (gdurante@ucdavis.edu)
  • InnovationAccess: Barry Curtis (bacurtis@ucdavis.edu)