

USTAR Update



Innovation Areas:

Energy



Biomedical Technology



Brain Medicine



Digital Media



Nano-technology



Imaging Technology



Overview

In March 2006, the Utah State Legislature passed Senate Bill 75 creating the Utah Science Technology and Research initiative (USTAR). This measure provided funding for strategic investments at the University of Utah (U of U) and Utah State University (USU) to recruit world-class researchers and build state-of-the-art interdisciplinary research and development facilities and to form first-rate science, innovation, and commercialization teams across the state.

This initiative focuses on leveraging the proven success of Utah's research universities in creating and commercializing innovative technologies to generate more technology-based start-up firms, higher paying jobs, and additional business activity leading to a state-wide expansion of Utah's tax base.

In a little more than two years of operation, USTAR is ahead of plan. Here is an overview of USTAR's three program areas – Research Teams, Research Building Projects, and regional Technology Outreach. More detail on each program area will follow this overview.

Research Teams

World-class research teams have been recruited to Utah and developed internally within six strategic innovation focus areas.

The characteristics of these innovation focus areas:

- Are based on existing University strengths
- Have vast commercialization opportunities
- Address large and/or strategic global markets
- Leverage Utah industry strengths

The specific focus areas are:

- Energy
- Biomedical Technology
- Brain Medicine
- Digital Media
- Imaging Technologies
- Nanotechnology

To date, faculty have begun working in Utah across five of the six focus areas and hires are expected in the newest area of Digital Media by the end of FY2009.

Research Buildings

USTAR funding supports construction of state-of-the-art interdisciplinary research and innovation facilities at the U of U and USU. Each structure will provide research teams with strategic core facilities to advance innovation and commercialization in their respective focus areas.

These facilities are being programmed and designed to be "industry magnets" for innovation collaboration.



5 Research Teams

8 Building Projects

10 Technology Outreach & Innovation Program

Funding

Overview, continued

The programming phase at each USTAR research building is complete, and the design phase has begun. The general contractor and architecture firms for both projects have been selected. Ground breaking for the USU building took place Oct. 17th, and the facility is projected to open in 2011. At the U of U, ground breaking is expected Spring 2009 with the facility (the first in the U of U's 20-year Campus Master plan) slated to open in 2012.

Technology Outreach Program

USTAR's Technology Outreach Innovation Program (TOIP) is the engine to drive commercialization activities. TOIP's mission is to support the accomplishment of USTAR's financial, employment, and research objectives by lending experienced leadership, deep business understanding, and functional expertise to the most promising opportunities and focus areas.

The regional program is led by five industry-experienced directors deployed across Utah. Each director heads an Outreach Center located at one of the state's higher educational institutions.

The TOIP directors promote and encourage commercialization of local discoveries and technologies emanating from the State's research universities and enable technology-based entrepreneurial activities in their respective geographical areas.

The directors assist in expanding the transfer of new or improved technologies from state universities to existing companies and advancing cutting-edge research on behalf of Utah's leading firms.

Besides working with dozens of emerging and existing technology businesses and entrepreneurs in their regions, the directors have pursued regional initiatives. More detail on these activities is provided below.

Funding for the initiative is as follows:

- Ongoing \$15 million a year for Research Team recruitment and support
- Ongoing \$4 million a year for regional Technology Outreach
- One-time funding for the Building Projects*:
 - \$50 million from General Fund,
 - \$111 million in bonding, and
 - \$40 million matching contributions from the universities, comprised of:
 - \$30 million from the U of U
 - \$10 million from USU

The Legislature authorized the following General Obligation bonding amounts that have not yet been issued: \$111 million for USTAR buildings (2006 authorization).

USU has met the \$10 million requirement to receive \$40 million of state-issued GO bonds to construct a Bio Innovations Research Institute. The U of U anticipates meeting its \$30 million requirement by the first quarter of 2009 to receive \$70 million of state-issued GO bonds for a Neuroscience and Biomedical Technology Research Building. Neither project anticipates bonding this year.

* The U of U building project has a budget of \$130 million, while USU's has a budget of \$70 million.

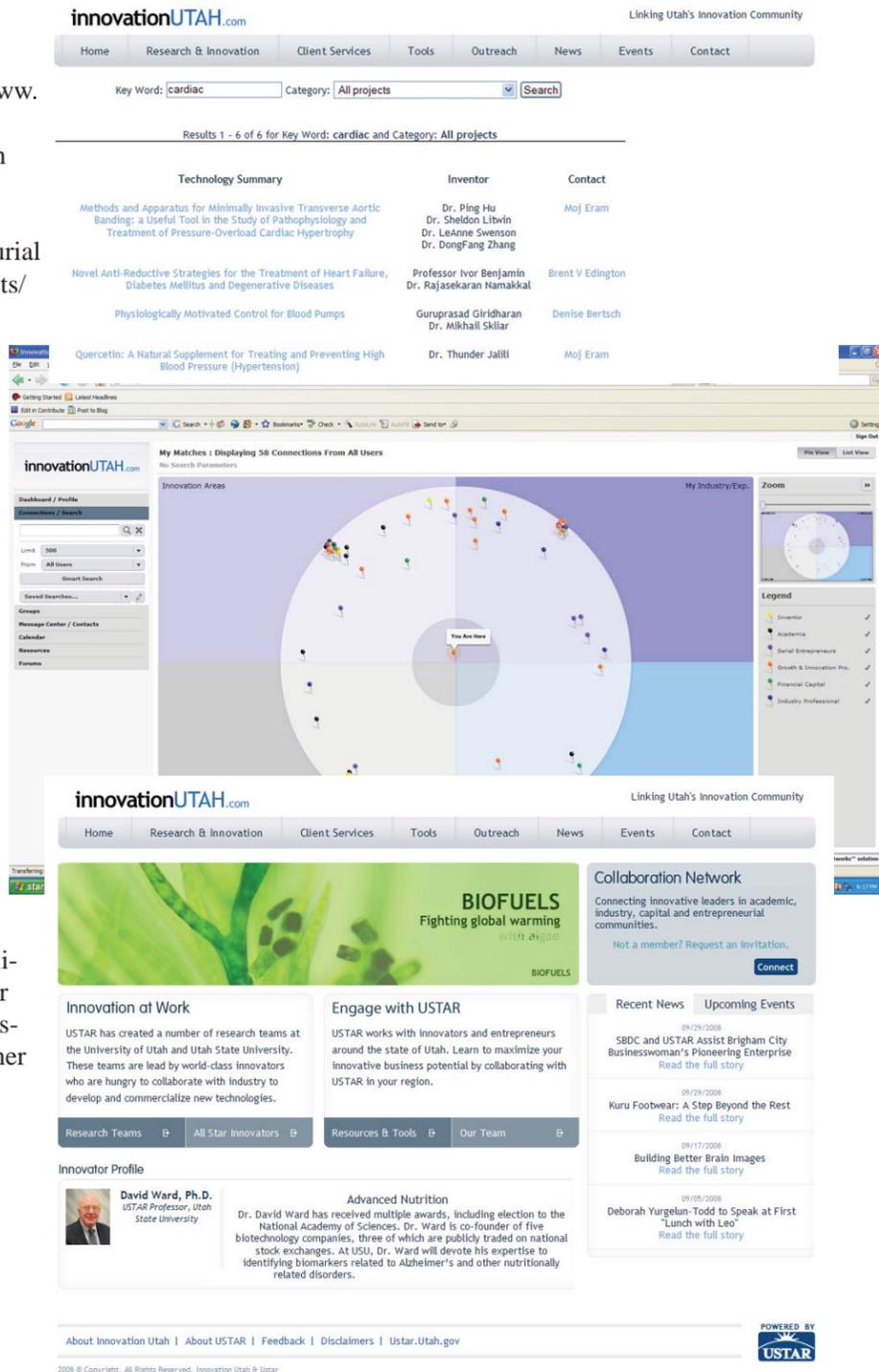


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Virtual Innovation Network

The headquarters Marketing team is supporting the TOIP program via an information technology architecture called the Virtual Innovation Network (VIN) that supports the connectivity of the outreach centers and the variety of stakeholders that they service.

The first component is the web site, www.innovationutah.com, which includes detailed overviews of USTAR research teams, a database of technology disclosures from the U of U and USU, an interactive Service Map of entrepreneurial resources statewide, researcher podcasts/webcasts, and details of TOIP services and initiatives.



The second component is the Collaboration Network, an invitation-only social networking tool that connects entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, industry leaders, and service providers.

The third component is a client relationship management system that provides project tracking and that facilitates the ability of TOIP teams to foster connections between researchers, industry, the investment community, and other innovation economy stakeholders.

Organization

The USTAR Governing Authority

Our board is an experienced and committed team with diverse experience in inventorship, entrepreneurship, financial capital, university research, and running and growing companies.

- Dinesh Patel, Ph.D., Managing Director, vSpring Capital (Chairman)
- Scott Anderson, CEO, ZionsBank (Vice Chairman)
- Ed Alter, Utah State Treasurer's Office
- Jim Dreyfous, Managing Director, UV Partners
- Hunter Jackson, Ph.D., former CEO of NPS Pharmaceuticals and currently Executive Director, Technology Venture Development, U of U
- Dan Olsen, Ph.D., Brigham Young University
- Cathy A. Petti, M.D., ARUP
- Charles J. Precourt, VP of Business Development, ATK
- Rich Linder, CEO, Coherex Medical Inc.



Dinesh Patel

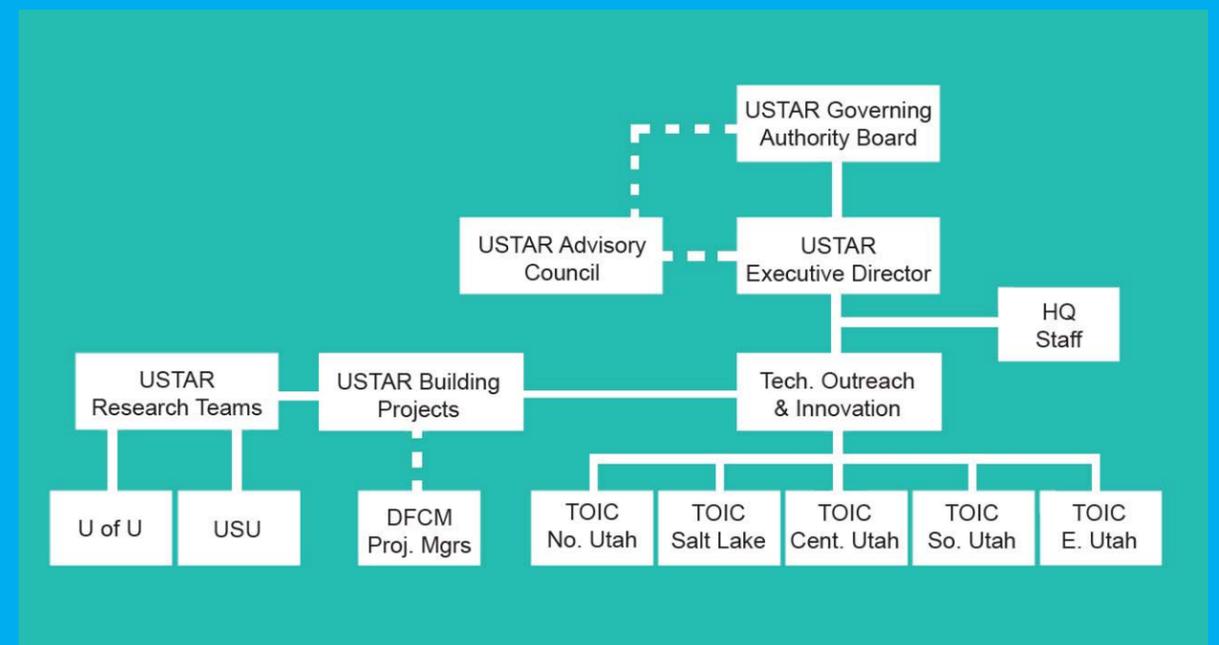
USTAR Advisory Board

A council that represents the business community across Utah meets regularly to advise the Initiative.

- Lane Beattie, President & CEO, Salt Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
- Robert T. Behunin, Ph.D., Executive Director for University Advancement, Utah State University Uintah Basin
- Dave L. Clark, President & CEO, Prolexy's
- Dave Cutler, VP - Customer Service, Novell
- Jeff Edwards, President & CEO, EDCUtah
- Sandra Emile, President, Cache Chamber of Commerce
- Dave Hardman, President & CEO, Ogden-Weber Chamber of Commerce
- Josh Little, Shareholder, Durham, Jones and Pinegar
- Richard Nelson, President & CEO, Utah Technology Council
- Jason Perry, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Economic Development
- Sean Slatter, President & CEO, Logistic Specialties
- TBD: One member appointed by the Utah Nanotechnology Initiative

USTAR staff

The USTAR organization is comprised of regional technology outreach staff (directors, analysts, and interns) and headquarters personnel. The TOIP offices work with local entrepreneurs and businesses, provide strategic consulting to the university USTAR research teams, and pursue regional initiatives. The headquarters team supports the TOIP offices, and provides executive administration, accounting/finance, and marketing communications services.



Measurements

The USTAR initiative is a long-term, multi-year effort. Our first two years of existence have focused on building a strong base for growth. In this initial “launch” period, we have hired a significant number of USTAR researchers, made progress on the building projects, and put in place an experienced team of technology outreach consultants around the state.

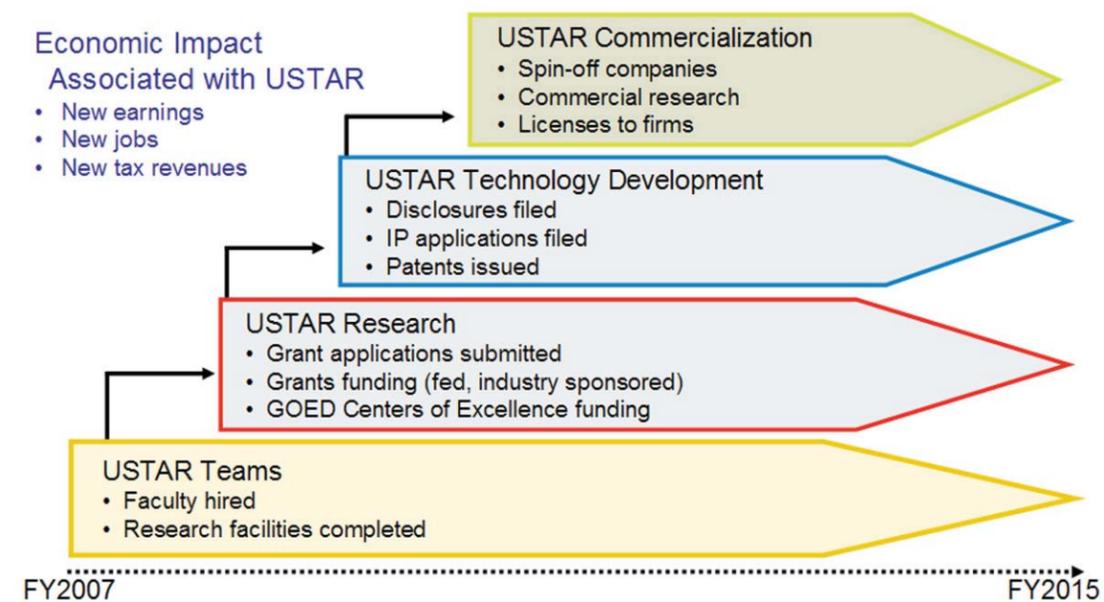
As shown in the exhibit below, we’re in the phase where we expect to see gains in federal grants attracted to the state, and some preliminary progress in disclosures and patents filed.

We’re happy to report that we are ahead of plan in several key metrics, including those associated with company development.



Economic Impact Associated with USTAR

- New earnings
- New jobs
- New tax revenues



Collaboration

In addition to our alignment with higher education institutions, USTAR collaborates with key proponents in growing Utah’s innovation economy, including the Governor’s Office of Economic Development, EDCUtah, Grow Utah Ventures, Wayne Brown Institute, Chambers of Commerce, SBDC offices, Utah Inventors, SEED initiatives, angel investor groups, and others.

SEED Dixie

SEED Dixie partners with USTAR in sponsoring the Dixie Angels and the Dixie Technology Association (Dixie Techs). The Dixie Angels see ten pitch presentations each year which are carefully screened from dozens applying. This new angel group has funded two businesses in 2008.

Dixie Techs was established to nurture and provide resources to the technology sector, a seedbed of entrepreneurially minded businesses and individuals. The group meets every month in Tech Friday gatherings to network, hear speakers, and share information.

The recently formed Dixie Entrepreneur Association board will be advising SEED Dixie activities. Led by Chuck Summerhays, the former CEO of Teledyne, the board includes successful business owners with a diversity of experience. Currently the SEED Dixie and USTAR jointly engage with clients for initial assessment. If the concept or business has the potential to reach national markets and create high paying jobs, it proceeds to more advanced counseling and additional USTAR resources.

Outdoor Recreation Industry

The Northern Utah Tech Outreach office is supporting the City of Ogden’s efforts to become the leading place for outdoor recreation industry businesses to locate. One aspect of that effort, in conjunction with Grow Utah Ventures and Zions Bank, is the Concept to Company contest, which aims to attract new product ideas and new companies to Ogden’s burgeoning outdoor recreation business environment.

Concept to Company may be the first competition in the nation to focus on spurring innovation in the outdoor recreation products industry. Ideas focused on skiing, snowboarding, cycling, climbing, hiking, paddling, and other non-motorized, non-fishing or non-hunting sports.



In the inaugural edition of the contest, organizers received more than 120 intriguing submissions. Four entrepreneurs were selected by a panel of expert judges to receive cash and USTAR-based service prizes toward launching or growing their businesses. The organizers are expanding the contest to other industries statewide.

Uintah Basin 3D Seismic Modeling

The Eastern Utah TOIP office is working closely with Prof. Bill Keach (joint appointment at the U of U and BYU) on a project that could dramatically lower costs and environmental impact associated with oil and gas drilling.

A “proof of concept” grant from USTAR enabled Prof. Keach to perform a series of tests of 3D Seismic Spectral Decomposition Analysis in the Uintah Basin. Initial results – which are being verified in a second round of testing – indicate the technology can increase the well drilling success rate from 25 to 75 percent.



Results of the second round of tests will be released to the public in 2009, and it is expected that the state may gain some royalty revenues from activity on SITLA property focus. The technology may also reduce surface impact for environmental mitigation.

The project grew from a single data set from Pioneer Natural Resources to include Wind River Resources and Flying J, both Utah based.

TOIP Regional Initiatives

In terms of regional initiatives, here are some TOIP accomplishments and ongoing projects underway:

SBIR /STTR Assistance Program

In an effort to assist small technology businesses and entrepreneurs grow, USTAR, Salt Lake Community College, Governor's Office of Economic Development and the Small Business Administration have recently partnered to open the SBIR/STTR Assistance Center located at the Miller Corporate Partnership Center in Sandy. (Visit www.sbir.utah.gov.)



The SBIR/STTR Assistance Center assists technology companies statewide in matching their technology products to possible SBIR/STTR grants as well as assisting in the writing and

submittal process. The center will also present training and provide workshops.

"SBIR grants represent an early-stage funding mechanism that doesn't dilute the company founders' equity, as can happen with other early-stage capital vehicles. The SBIR Assistance Center is here to assist local entrepreneurs and businesses take advantage of this funding source, by helping to improve the number and quality of proposals that are submitted," said Dr. Suzanne Winters, Program Director.

BioInnovation Gateway (BiG) Project

Located within the Granite Technical Institute (GTI) in Salt Lake City, the BioInnovation Gateway (BiG) project is a model of next-generation business incubation. Up to seven companies will access state-of-the-art biotech and engineering equipment used in the Biomanufacturing and Biotechnology programs of Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) and Granite School District.



BiG will benefit biotech start-up businesses and students through shared facilities, equipment, tech-

nical resources, and talent. The three primary objectives of BiG are:

- To provide early-stage Life Science companies a cost-effective competitive edge by sharing space, equipment, and talent.
- To train outstanding students to develop creative thinking skills in a product-driven environment. Participating BiG students will earn degree credit at GTI, SLCC, or Utah Valley University.
- To offer third-party contract research services.

Scheduled to open in January 2009, BiG is primarily funded through federal grants and the GSD for the first three years, after which it will become self-sustaining.

Helping Make Utah the Digital Media Capital of the World

USTAR's Central Utah Technology Outreach Program is facilitating the creation of a new digital media initiative in Utah. The initiative is bringing business, university, and government entities together to make Utah the world-wide industry leader in digital media and with that could come hundreds, if not thousands of new jobs.

The alliance will assist local gaming, film, software, and Web 2.0 companies, such as EA Salt Lake, Disney Avalanche, Sandman Studios, Spectrum DNA, and Sensory Sweep in recruiting talent, developing partnering opportunities, and increasing international awareness of Utah's leading capabilities in the digital media arena.

In line with this industry approach, USTAR has helped the University of Utah launch a new digital media innovation research team to further technical advances and integrate these efforts with local businesses.



Research Teams

There are 17 teams in the six Innovation Focus Areas:



Brain Medicine



- Circuits of the Brain
- Imaging Psychiatric Diseases

Biomedical Technology



- Biomedical Device Innovation
- Cell Therapy & Regenerative Medicine
- Advanced Nutrition
- Synthetic Biomanufacturing

Energy



- Biofuels
- Fossil Energy: Carbon Sequestration

Nanotechnology



- Nano Micro Circuitry
- Nanotechnology Biosensors
- Micro & Nano Systems Integration

Imaging Technology



- Diagnostic Imaging
- Imaging Technology
- Nanoscale & Biomedical Photonic Imaging
- Advanced Sensing & Imaging
- Space Weather

Digital Media



- Digital Media

As of June 30, 2008, the hiring and activation of research teams are ahead of schedule. Here are the details:

Category	Economic Prospectus Projections	Actual (Cumulative)	Actual vs. Projections
Faculty hiring activity*	8 teams	15 senior faculty hired**	Ahead of plan
External research grants awarded (2006-2008)	\$2.3 million	\$4.35 million	189%
External research grants awarded (2009-2011)	N/A	\$7.5 million	Ahead of plan
External research grants applied for	N/A	\$66.4 million	Ahead of plan
Patents filed or issued	0	4	Ahead of plan
Companies started in Utah	0	1	Ahead of plan
New companies under development	0	3	Ahead of plan
Companies brought to Utah	0	2	Ahead of plan

* Economic Prospectus did not specify headcount. ** Hiring includes supporting research team members

Developing Stories

The following highlights are examples of progress being made by several of the teams.

Biofuels (USU)

Under the leadership of Jeff Muhs and Sridhar Viamajala, Ph.D., the USU Biofuels team successfully designed a unique photo-bioreactor that improves the overall yield of algae production through enhanced sunlight utilization. The team is now in the process of prototyping and optimizing bioreactor designs to maximize lipid production. The team has formed a strategic relationship with Mitsubishi, one of the world's largest suppliers of optical-grade backlighting materials.



The USU Biofuels team has filed two patent applications, three invention disclosures, four proposals to federal agencies, and is working on eight research projects. It recently won \$450,000 share of a Dept. of Energy grant, and is expected to announce soon a \$4.5 million share of a Dept. of Defense grant to produce a bioreactor for military bio-jet fuel.

The team is in discussions with regional higher education institutions in Southern Utah on possible research collaboration, to test the bioreactor designs in the sun-rich south. A five-minute podcast with Jeff Muhs can be found in the "News" section of www.innovationutah.com.

Center for Advanced Sensing and Imaging (USU)

The Center for Active Sensing and Imaging (CASI) is developing technology using lidar (radar-like laser) for remote sensing and imaging of terrestrial hard targets such as buildings and terrain and atmospheric soft targets like aerosols and particles. Applicable markets include land development, architectural surveys, utility corridor survey/mapping, real-world 3D imaging for games and films, environmental remote sensing and monitoring, wind farm siting, and commercial and military intelligence gathering.

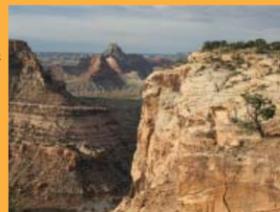
In the last year, the team successfully implemented the LASSI airborne 3D camera and concurrently completed several industry-sponsored airborne data collection projects utilizing the LASSI system.



CASI's goal is to start a company utilizing the airborne LASSI technology. USTAR's Northern Utah Technology Outreach office is working with CASI to achieve this commercialization goal.

Fossil Energy: Carbon Sequestration (U of U)

Brian McPherson, Ph.D., of the U of U Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Energy and Geoscience Institute (EGI), is leading a multi-state project testing the feasibility of geologic sequestration of carbon dioxide (CO₂). The project seeks to test the idea that the CO₂ burned at power plants can be pumped thousands of feet underground and stored safely away from the atmosphere. His team is on track to launch a production-scale field test near Price, UT in the spring of 2009. The effort will replicate a mid-sized power plant's annual output of CO₂, and should bring approximately \$30 million of project work to the Price economy, based on program budget estimates. The USTAR Eastern Utah Technology Outreach office has been instrumental in bringing the test to Price and is working with Dr. McPherson on the start-up of a new company, Clear Carbon Solutions.



Dr. McPherson will appear in a British Broadcasting Company/Discovery documentary on climate change slated for December 2008. Thanks to USTAR's marketing efforts, the segment was filmed in Emery County in July 2008, and will include some breathtaking rock-climbing sequences in the San Rafael Swell, where relevant strata are visible.



TOIP Metrics

In terms of working with local companies and entrepreneurs, here are the metrics of activity (Sept. 30, 2008):

161 companies/entrepreneurs evaluated with 34 active projects underway. Specific activities include:

- Recurring consulting engagements 17
- Market/opportunity analysis reports 8
- Brokered connections to university resources or industry 8
- Product development, prototyping/testing, or patent research 11
- Coaching on presentations to angel investor groups 9

Technology Outreach Directors



Dr. Suzanne Winters, Salt Lake/Tooele

Location: Salt Lake Community College
Counties: Salt Lake, Tooele
Director Background: Battelle, Science Advisor for Utah under Governor Leavitt.



Curt Roberts, Northern Utah

Location: Weber State University
Counties: Box Elder, Cache, Davis, Morgan, Rich, and Weber
Director Background: VP for Nike working on Tech Ventures and Global Strategy.



Steven Roy, Central Utah

Location: Utah Valley University
Counties: Summit, Utah and Wasatch
Director Background: Sun Microsystems, Andersen Consulting, LLP. Six Sigma blackbelt certification.



Al Walker, Eastern Utah

Location: USU - Vernal, EGI at U of U
Counties: Carbon, Daggett, Duchesne, Emery, Grand, San Juan and Uintah
Director Background: Questar, Amoco and General Electric.



Dr. William Pratt, Southern Utah

Location: Dixie State College, Southern Utah University
Counties: Beaver, Garfield, Juab, Kane, Iron, Millard, Piute, San Pete, Sevier, Washington and Wayne
Director Background: Chairman of SUU's Integrated Engineering & Tech. Dept.

Technology Outreach

USTAR created the Technology Outreach Innovation Program (TOIP) to be the engine to drive commercialization activities. The TOIP's mission is to support the accomplishment of USTAR's financial, employment, and research objectives by lending experienced leadership, deep business understanding, and functional expertise to the most promising opportunities and focus areas. The program is led by five directors deployed across Utah with a regional focus. Each director heads an Outreach Center located at one of the State's higher educational institutions.

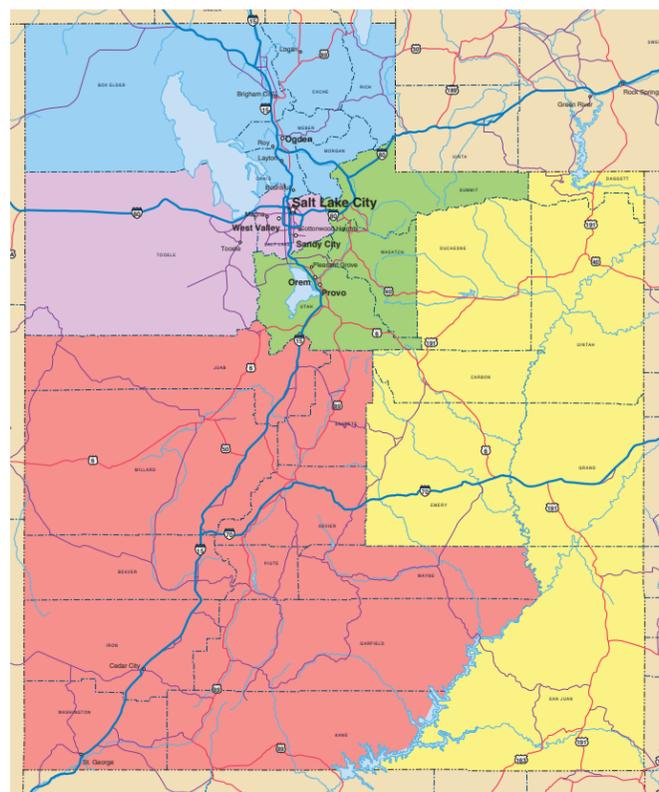
The Technology Outreach Program acts as a resource to:

- Screen and broker new ideas, technologies and services to entrepreneurs and businesses throughout defined service areas and to ensure that the ones with the highest growth potential receive the most targeted services and attention
- Connect ideas and technologies from entrepreneurs, existing businesses, industries, and faculty and staff of regional higher education institutions with the expertise of Utah's research universities and assist in the commercialization of these ideas.
- Share discoveries and technologies from Utah's research universities to local entrepreneurs, businesses, and regional higher education institutions.

The technology outreach teams are based at

- Weber State University
- Salt Lake Community College
- Utah Valley University
- Utah State University – Vernal
- Dixie State College
- Satellite office at Southern Utah University

The regional directors have in-depth knowledge of the businesses and technological needs in their regions. They are good "economic matchmakers," connecting the people with innovative technology to the people that can use or fund it.



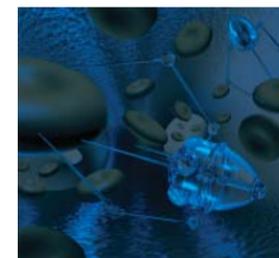
Under their leadership, the TOIP teams located around the state lend experienced leadership, deep business understanding, and functional expertise to promising opportunities. Besides expertise in strategic planning, human capital development, marketing and operations, the directors bring vertical industry experience in the energy, life sciences, advanced materials, and more.

In each region, the host institution provides facilities for the housing of the outreach center director, an analyst and a team of student interns who support the center.

The USTAR Governing Authority provides expenses for existing facility rent payments, furniture and equipment, supplies, salaries, etc, but USTAR funds are not being used to construct a building for the center. These centers are operating upon the backbone of existing statewide resources and create a team culture in which all potential service providers become partners in research and development, technology transfer and commercialization.

Biomedical Device Innovation (U OF U)

Research in Dr. Hamid Ghandehari's group involves the design and development of delivery systems that target drugs to diseased sites in the body to minimize adverse effects and maximize efficacy. This research, at the interface of nanoscience, biology and medicine, is a subdomain of the novel field of nanomedicine.



During the past year the research team has conducted studies in nanomedicine and drug delivery, published in journals, organized the nanoUtah 08 conference focused on nanomedicine, articulated and proposed along with nanotechnology colleagues the establishment of a state-based institute, and started the groundwork for establishing a company focused on polymer therapeutics.

The team is working toward the establishment of a company focused on polymer therapeutics. In the coming year other plans include:

- 1) To officially establish and co-lead the Nanotechnology Institute of Utah, creating a campus- and state-wide interdisciplinary collaborative research environment for the design, development and clinical translation of nanosystems for use as therapeutic and diagnostic purposes. The Institute is expected to be announced by the University on Oct. 17, 2008.
- 2) To continue research in federally funded areas, including the design of polymers for localized gene therapy of head and neck cancer, and of delivery systems that target the blood vessels of tumors. These efforts will represent more than \$1.1 million in federal research funds brought to Utah in FY2009.
- 3) As an example of industry collaboration, the team will submit a project grant to the NIH focused on polymer therapeutics for cancer therapy involving leading researchers from the U of U and the Huntsman Cancer Institute.

More information is available at www.innovationutah.com/research/ghandehari/hamidresearchteam.html

Nanotechnology Biosensors (U OF U)

Dr. Marc Porter and his research team are developing technologies focused in the arenas of human and animal disease markers detection, promising therapeutic compounds identification and analysis, nano- and biomaterials characterization and biocatalyst development.

Research and discoveries could impact such diverse areas as fuel cells, nanoelectronic devices, chip-scale diagnostic platforms, chemical interaction databases, tissue replacement, and novel detection strategies. Using the knowledge gained in these areas, the team is fine tuning chemistries at the heart of diagnostic and screening platforms, subsequently leading to the development of cutting-edge diagnostic tools.

This year the team has demonstrated the ability to prepare gold nanoparticles at a level needed to manufacture molecule-based labels, which is vital to capturing a strong market position.



With Dr. Porter's joining the USTAR initiative, Nanopartz, Inc. was relocated to Salt Lake City, Utah. Nanopartz is both an innovator and a quality supplier of gold nanoparticle-based products, and is the first and

only known commercial source for gold nanorods. In the last year, Nanopartz announced two significant distributor agreements, marking its increasing presence in the life sciences marketplace.

More information is available at www.innovationutah.com/research/biosensors/marcporter.html.

Research Buildings

Biofuels, nanofabrication, advanced nutrition, and brain medicine are just four of the many programs scheduled to become part of two state-of-the-art interdisciplinary research and development facilities coming to Utah as a result of a key program of the USTAR initiative.

These facilities, one at the U of U and one at USU, will be used by the recruited “all-star” research teams working in the initiative’s key innovation areas. Each facility will also serve as an industry magnet, encouraging collaboration between USTAR researchers and industry experts. The building construction process is being led by Project Managers from the Department of Facilities and Construction Management (DFCM).



Above: USU USTAR building - artist's rendition

Right: Location on the Innovation Campus (approximately 620 E 1600 N)



USTAR is encouraging our industry contacts to provide feedback on the design of these two innovation centers. The primary purpose of these buildings is to give our research teams top-of-the-line facilities in which to conduct their work. The secondary purpose is also critical, and that is to foster the connection between industry, entrepreneurship and research.

The USU building has completed the schematic design phase. It is planned to house, among other teams, the researchers pursuing the advanced nutrition, biomanufacturing, and biofuels efforts. This building will be located in the Innovation Campus on the north side of the entire USU complex.

Gramoll Construction has been competitively selected as the Construction Manager General Contractor (CMGC) as was Lord Aeck Sargent Architecture as the Architectural and Engineering (AE) firm and design team lead (with local collaboration with Prescott Muir). The Design and Construction schedule on the University of Utah facility has yet to be finalized, however, construction is tentatively set to complete in 2012.

USU facilities are to include:

- Bio Safety Level 3+ lab
- Vivarium
- Clinical nutrition center
- Life science labs



Left: Possible design of U of U USTAR building - artist's rendition

Right: Location (U of U golf course, Federal Way)



At the U of U, Layton Construction, Inc. has been competitively selected as the Construction Manager General Contractor (CMGC) as was Lord Aeck Sargent Architecture as the Architectural and Engineering (AE) firm and design team lead (with local collaboration with Prescott Muir). The Design and Construction schedule on the University of Utah facility has yet to be finalized, however, construction is tentatively set to complete in 2012.

The USTAR facility is part of the U of U’s recently updated Campus Master Plan and will anchor a new research complex. U of U facilities are to include:

- Nanofabrication
- Small Animal Imaging
- Optical Imaging
- Vivarium
- Neuroscience labs
- Biotechnology labs
- Data center

The U is making solid progress on fund raising for their matching contribution of \$30 million which will be completed before ground is broken on the new building. The new building is envisioned to be part of a four-building interdisciplinary quadrangle which will be located between lower and upper campus and act as a central unifier between the work in the College of Engineering and the Health and Medical School. Funding for the projects came in March 2006 when State legislators created a \$161 million USTAR building fund. The universities are providing a \$40 million match, bringing the entire building budget to \$201 million.

The USTAR legislation required both of the research universities to donate land and make significant contributions towards the cost of the building prior to construction. Both the U of U and USU have designated land that will be used.

USU donated a 33,000 square-foot building in Innovation Campus which has been designated Phase I and is being used to house the existing innovation teams. The Legislature and Governing Authority approved the donation of both Building 620 and accompanying land to satisfy the university’s \$10 million contribution.

USU and U of U are both finding creative ways to deal with the challenges of recruiting faculty members prior to the completion of the facilities.