

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

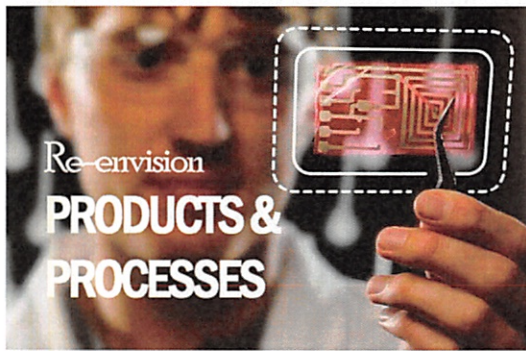
Economic Development and Industry Relations

Building Our Innovation Ecosystem in Iowa

**Senate Appropriations, Economic Development Subcommittee
February 21, 2023**

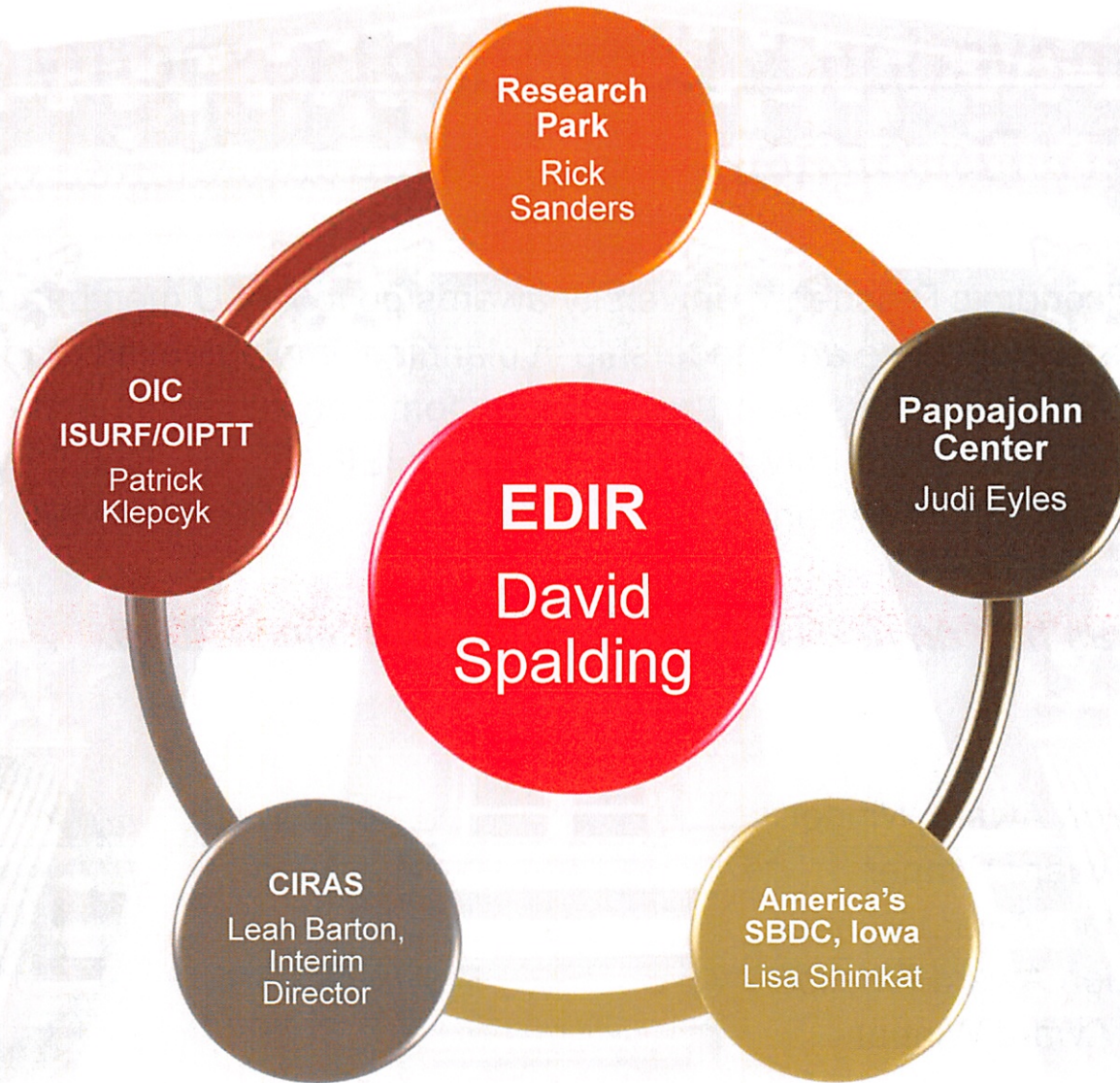
PETER K. DORHOUT

Vice President for Research Iowa State University



Innovation Ecosystem

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Economic Development and Industry Relations



APLU Innovation & Economic Prosperity University Designee

Innovation & Economic Prosperity University awards go to APLU member universities that demonstrate excellence and leadership in planning, implementing, and evaluating programs and initiatives that support regional economic development and engagement. Institutions are only eligible to apply for IEP Awards once they have earned the IEP University designation.

Iowa State has had an IEP University designation since 2016.

IEP Awards:

- 2022 - Innovation Award Winner
- 2021 - Place Award Winner
- 2020 - Innovation Award Winner
- 2018 - Innovation Award Finalist
- 2017 - Talent Award Winner



America's Small Business Development Center Iowa



15 regional centers across the state and serves all 99 Iowa counties



Rural Business Innovators brings tech expertise to rural communities



Helps to start new companies



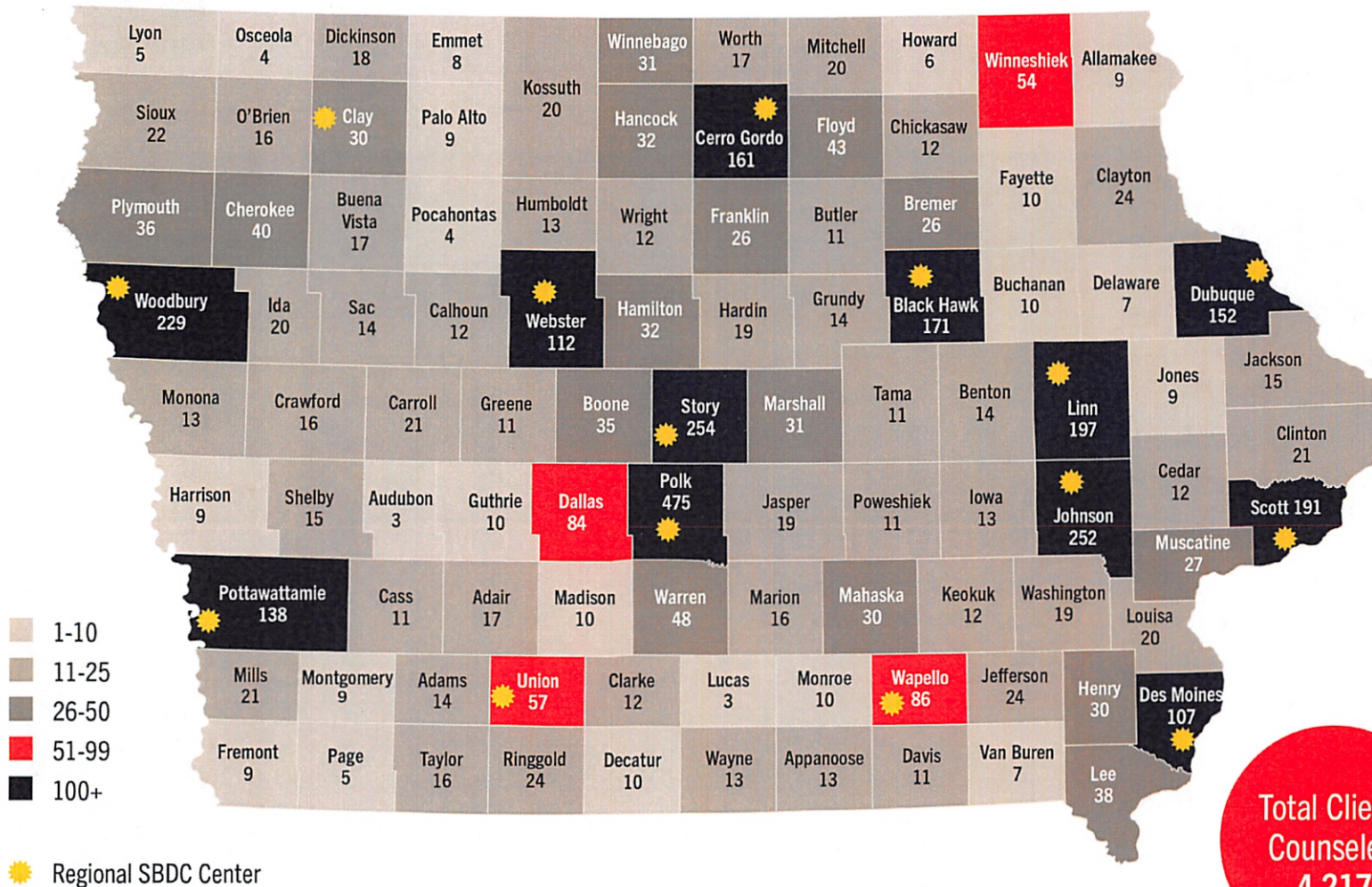
Provides business services/counsel to existing companies to:

- Solve management problems
- Improve operations
- Seek financing
- Pursue new opportunities

Impact of State Funding

State funding accounts for nearly 50% of program dollars.
Federal funding requires a 1:1 match, half of which must be in cash.

America's SBDC Iowa – Clients Counseled FY22



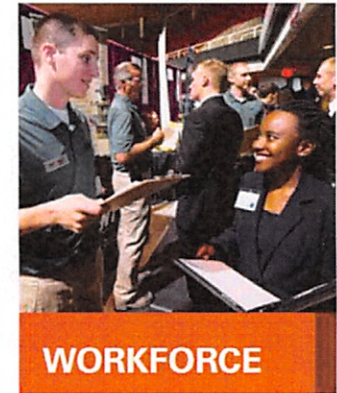
**Total Clients
Counseled
4,217**

*An additional 80 clients were also seen from other states.

Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS)

Helping Business Thrive

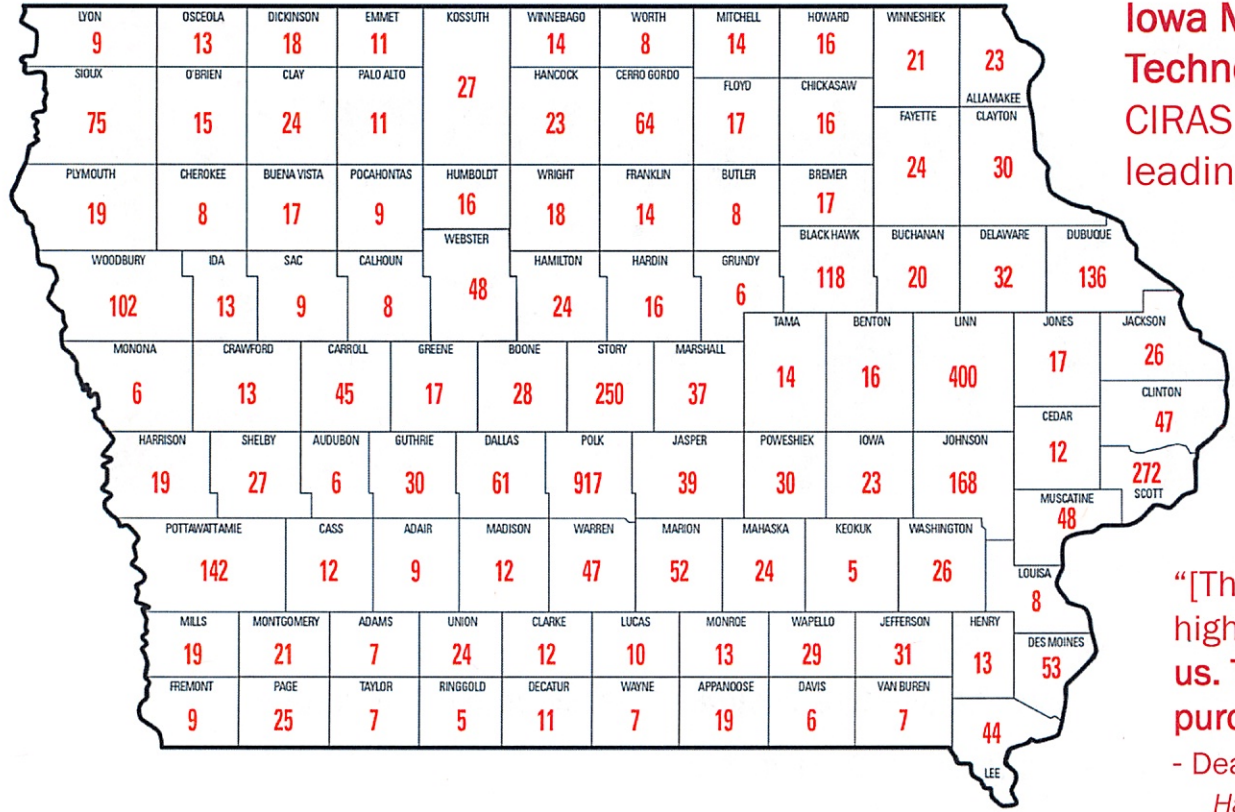
ciras



- Services, counseling, and training for Iowa businesses
- Focus on small- to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
- Manages Technology Assistance Program - Iowa Legislature Economic Development Committee
- Typical client achieves a 200% ROI - \$2 return for every \$1 invested

CIRAS: Impacting Iowans in 99 counties

Distinct Clients Served Last 5 Years



Iowa Manufacturing 4.0
Technology Investment Grants
CIRAS conducted 230 on-site assessments
leading to:

**\$7M total funding to
manufacturers**
**\$70M manufacturer-reported
results to date**

“[The Cobot] freed up workers to do other, higher-level tasks. It’s been a real win-win for us. To be honest, we would have never purchased it at this point without the grant”

- Dean Sonquist, Plas-TechTooling,
Hancock County

CIRAS: Generating Results Across Iowa

Connecting ISU with Iowa Industry

- 60 Engineering student capstone projects with Iowa businesses
- Digital Manufacturing Lab powered by Alliant Energy provides access to new technologies
- Hosted over 225 events across the state

CIRAS Results over the past five years:

- 4,408 distinct Iowa businesses served by CIRAS and its partners
- Economic impact of \$2.8 billion
- Over 30,000 jobs created or retained



Life Line Emergency Vehicles
Bremer County

\$5.5 million

Iowa Companies: Licensed Product Sales (CY22)

1
Startup Formed



Product Development



34
Licenses & Options Executed Worldwide,
10 in Iowa

Licensing

113
License and Option Agreements Yielding Income

Research & Development

\$394 million
Total Research Funding



Invention

82
IP Disclosures



Evaluation



IP Protection

94
New Patent Apps Filed

Marketing

37 US/69 TOTAL
U.S. Patents Issued



Technology Transfer Lifecycle FY2022

Iowa State University Research Park



99 companies
call the ISU Research
Park home
(+20 paid affiliates)



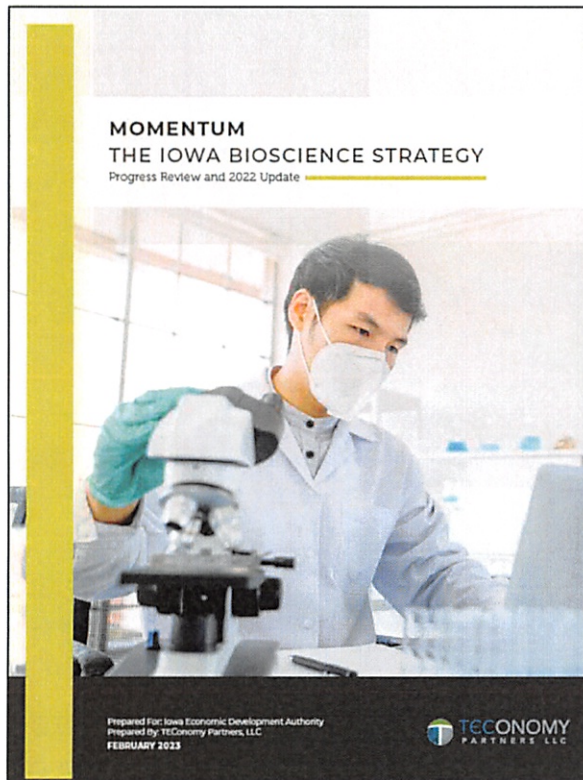
2,328 people
are employed at ISU
Research Park (tenants
and coworking/affiliates)



550 acres
approximately 850,000
square feet of
building space

ISU Bioscience Platforms – Return on Investment

- Three years of investments have:
 - Hire Chief Technology Officers (CTOs)
 - Launched/helped over **27** startup companies
 - Involved over **153** researchers/students
 - Created new partnerships with over **29** companies through the seed grant mechanisms
 - Garnered over **\$80.2 M** in federal/industrial funding that has been added to the innovation ecosystem in these platform areas



TEconomy Partners, 2023
For IEDA

Strengths of the Platforms

- CTOs are viewed by stakeholders as being a very successful addition to the platforms. The CTOs are instrumental in driving innovation commercialization across platforms through their individual commercial experience and because they come with significant relationships and contacts.
- State funds for the bioscience platforms are designed as highly flexible in their use by universities. Because the use of funds has not been overly prescriptive, the universities have been able to direct resources to where they feel they will be most effective.
- Platforms have helped organize people around common goals in a way that has resulted in real progress, including moving forward infrastructure projects and pursuing new opportunities

The Focus in the Biosciences

- Iowa State continues to support and grow innovation ecosystems and foster tech transfer from the three ISU-advantaged Bioscience Platforms



BioBased Products (BBP)



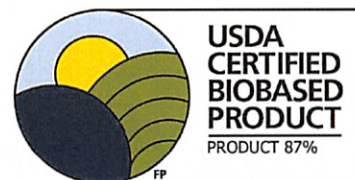
Vaccines, Immunotherapeutics, and Diagnostics (VID)



Digital and Precision Agriculture (D&PA)

- Experts working with ISU research teams to ID innovations with strong commercial potential; growing commercial partnerships with industry

BBP: The Future of Chemical Manufacturing



BIOBASED CHEMICALS

Fermentation will grow as a way to make chemicals

by *Craig Bettenhausen*

Most consumer-facing markets are seeing increased demand for low-carbon, plant-based products. In 2023, the volume and diversity of biobased chemicals made via fermentation will grow as microbe engineering gets better and synthetic biology unlocks a wider range of molecular targets.

One example of this trend is the growth of the industrial biotechnology firm **Genomatica**, which is rapidly commercializing fermentation routes to large-volume

TAKEAWAYS

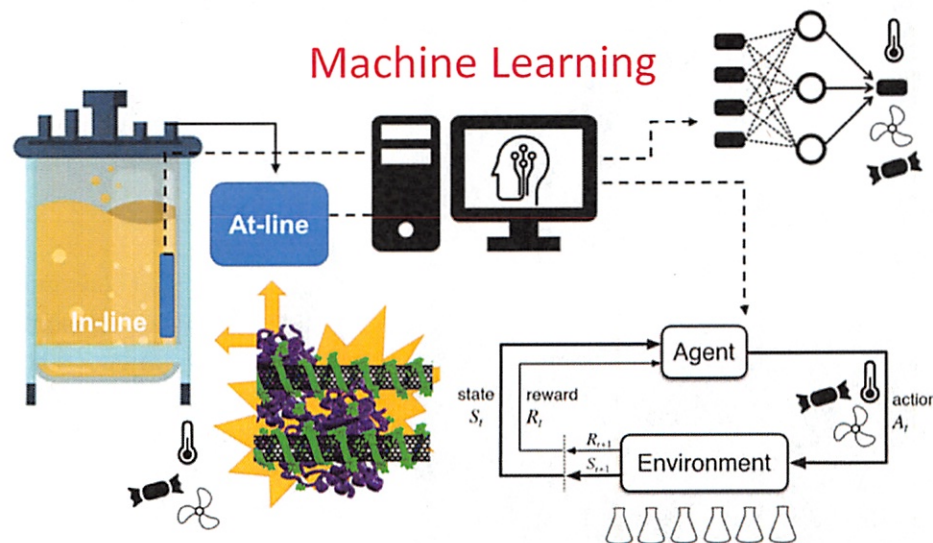
- ⇒ Improved process engineering is enabling larger-volume chemical fermentation.
- ⇒ Genetic engineering is opening up more molecular targets to microbial manufacturing.

BBP Corporate Engagement - BioMADE



The Bioindustrial Manufacturing and Design Ecosystem (BioMADE) Institute was established to improve production efficiency and scale-up of biobased products

- Within the *past year*, ISU awarded **>\$2.6 million** in grants with key industrial partners
 - Cargill
 - Genomatica
 - Novozymes



Optimization project funded by BioMADE

BBP Startup – Pyrone Systems



- Commercializing ISU-developed biopesticide technology
- Naturally occurring molecule delivers positive environmental impact. Novel mode of action combats pest resistance
- Closed initial funding round

Repellency



Performance equivalent to DEET

Insecticide



Efficacy for corn rootworm
and soybean aphid

BBP Startup – Soylei Innovations



Soylei Innovations is an Iowa-based startup commercializing ISU technology for soybean oil derivatives used as asphalt modifiers

- More than 30 patents issued
- Current portfolio of 5 products marketed with Ames-based channel partner Colorbiotics
- Won \$5 M USDA/NIFA grant for 2023



Longer life / higher-performance asphalt products

BBP Infrastructure – Project Gemini

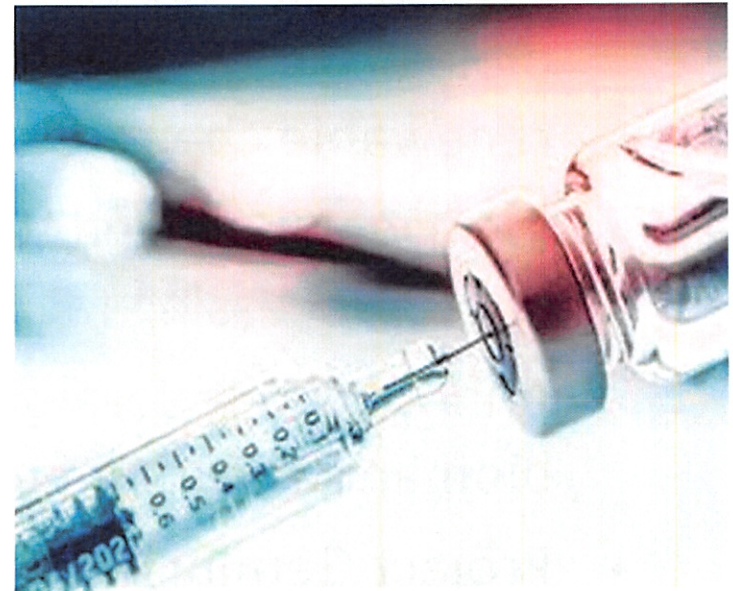


- Addresses critical need for scaleup biomanufacturing capacity to support the pipeline of products in ag biologicals, animal and human nutrition, bio-materials and renewable chemicals
- Iowa ideally suited to host – feedstock, existing critical mass of bioprocessing facilities, renewable power, and talent
- Announced federal government support for funding of biomanufacturing facilities
- Project Gemini initiated to gather Iowa stakeholders to capture this opportunity – preliminary engineering, siting, budgeting in process

VID: CYVAX – Concept and Objectives



- Dedicated licensed space (1500 GSF) for vaccine pilot scale production
- Increase the value of ISU faculty-based research and associated IP for license with focus on regulatory compliance
- Increase the speed/efficiency of commercial development by Iowa based startup companies
- ISU-Industry Training of USDA and regulatory requirements



VID: CYVAX Results



Startup Support

- 3D Health Solutions (ISU Faculty Startup)
- Initiated commercial activity at CYVAX
- Graduate student > Full Time Employee



Existing Industry

- ELANCO needed a laboratory to evaluate new technology; CYVAX provided easy access to new Iowa location
- New Scientists hired for Iowa site, with expansion possible



VID: CYVAX Results



Advanced regulatory & commercial manufacturing training

- Regulatory product release (Potency Training) with JESS partnership
- 35 participants including students, faculty, startups and existing industry
- Additional sessions planned for 2023



VID: MERCK Strategic Partnership



- 4 - year agreement with \$300K/yr in committed funding
 - Options to expand for specific projects
- Managed by a joint ISU-MERCK Steering Committee
- First year – actual funding was nearly \$900K
 - 15 Active projects funded by MERCK AH
 - 3 projects funded by MERCK Human
 - 11 projects under discussion
 - Vet Med, Nanovaccine, Engineering, Library, Internships

VID: Commercial Fellowship



Challenge – Graduate students are top talent associated with new technology. New startups often have funding gaps that prevent talent retention.

Solution – A portion of BioScience platform funds was invested to establish a fellowship program to support talent retention, industry training, and job creation/retention in strategic areas

VID: Fellowship Results



Halide Biologics

- University of Iowa based startup
- Technology focused on Biotherapeutic protein stabilization
- Billion-dollar market
- Post-Doc essential for company development



VID Commercial Fellowship Awarded

- 6-month runway of funding while SBIR and other funding in progress
- Commercial milestones and progress defined and monitored
- 4-person commercial advisory team monitors and supports efforts
- Two other applications under consideration

D&PA: Startup Success: Dryland Genetics



Challenge – the world needs more grain but is running out of water

Solution – Proso Millet: “The Greener Grain”

“It is an amazing crop . . . It will grow in adverse conditions . . .”

Harry Stine

Stine Seed Co. & DLG Investor



Sustainable food for a world with less water

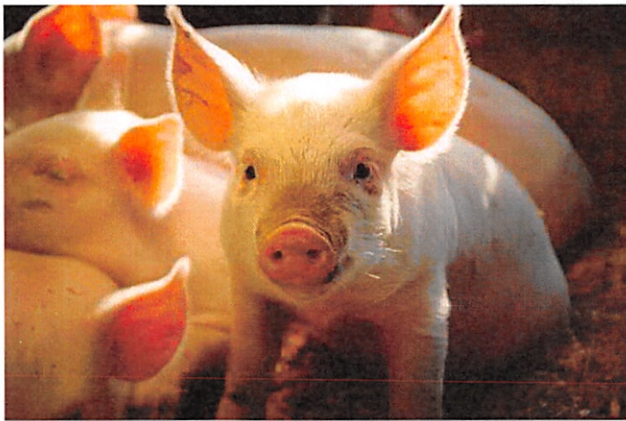
Startup Success: Dryland Genetics



- Under water-limiting conditions millet produces 2x more grain per gallon of water than corn. Currently grown on ~700,000 acres in arid western Great Plains.
- Drivers for 10x to 20x expansion of domestic acreage
 - Drop-in substitute for corn in livestock feed
 - Water and carbon efficiency
 - 20% yield increases double farmer profits
 - DLG improved varieties exhibit 10 to 40% yield advantage over best alternative varieties
- DLG recorded 11x growth in seed sales in 2022 compared to 2021
- **Viable third crop for Iowa** – in 2022 Iowa growers realized \$800/A revenue wo/use of N fertilizer; no new equipment needed to grow the crop



D&PA: Startup Success - Vet Med Telehealth



Challenge – Foreign animal diseases (FAD) not found in the U.S. can spread quickly and make animals sick, causing production losses and death

Solution – Vet Med Telehealth, rapid and scalable response to foreign animal diseases



Dr. Meredith Petersen
Post-Doctoral Research Assoc., VDPAM



Dr. Locke Karriker
SMEC Director, VDPAM

“Any set of eyes, on any set of pigs, anywhere in Iowa, within one hour.”

D&PA: Startup Success - Vet Med Telehealth



If a FAD was detected by our VDL, responding quickly to protect Iowa's farmers, stop disease spread, and eliminate the disease requires disease detection, containment and elimination



- **Challenges:**

- Limited data connection to farm sites (network reliability, physical barriers)
- On-farm hardware requires specialized engineering (e.g., dust, low light, antimicrobial properties)

- **Opportunities:**

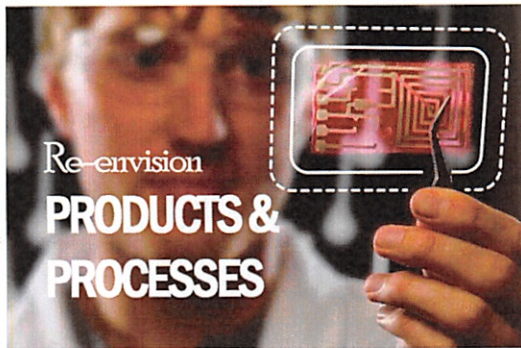
- Validated clinical skill transfer and site evaluation via telehealth
- Wearable hands-free devices connected to automated data collection and analysis platform

ISU Bioscience Platforms Request



The BOR request: an additional **\$377,000** to continue to grow partnerships with BioConnect Iowa and Iowa industry, to accelerate technology transfer, and to grow the innovation ecosystem for all three platforms. At the full \$1 million per platform, we will:

- Identify and accelerate development of commercial opportunities that provide benefit to Iowa-based companies and startups.
- Attract external funding and provide innovation ecosystem services.
- Incubate start-ups and accelerate technology transfer.
- Develop a skilled workforce with an innovation mindset.



Innovation Ecosystem

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Economic Development and Industry Relations