

IOWA

Economic Development & Innovation Review

Jon Darsee

Chief Innovation Office

President - UI Research Park Corporation

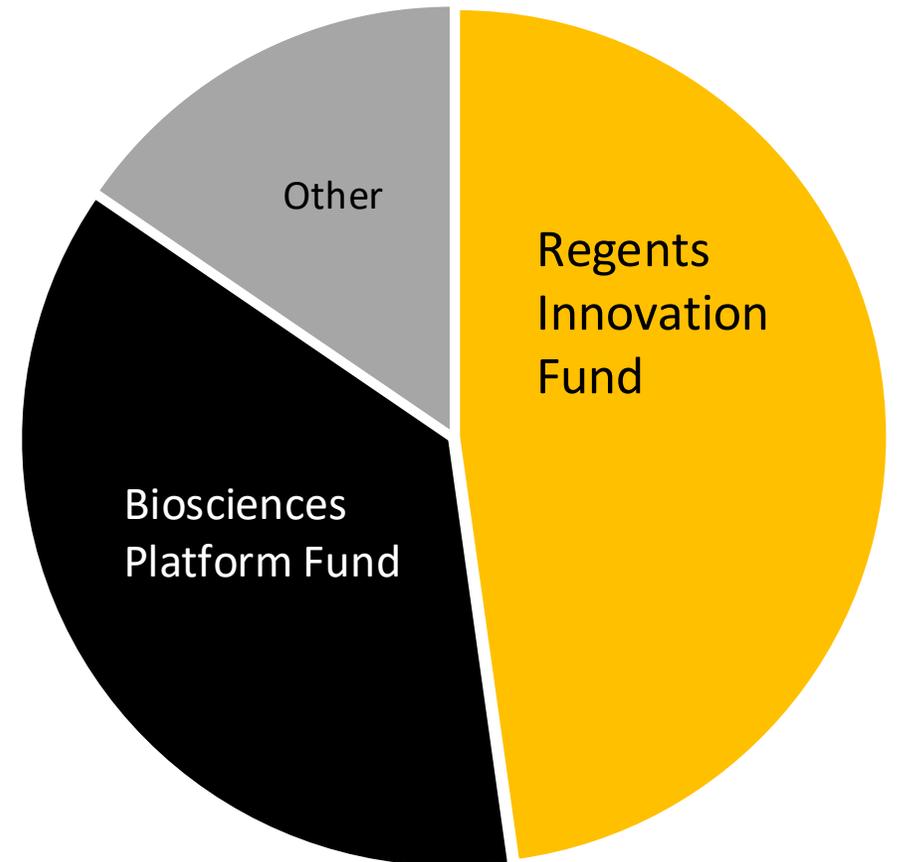
March 3, 2025

Appropriations Impact via Office of Innovation

Highlights

- Increasing Access to Talent and Capital has resulted in an 8-fold increase in medical technology startup funding
- Governor funded infrastructure grant will create support for State's medical technology inventors and entrepreneurs as never before
- A first of its kind statewide program giving agency to nurses inventing breakthroughs in patient safety and efficiencies in care while improving nurse job satisfaction

State Appropriations
~85% of funding



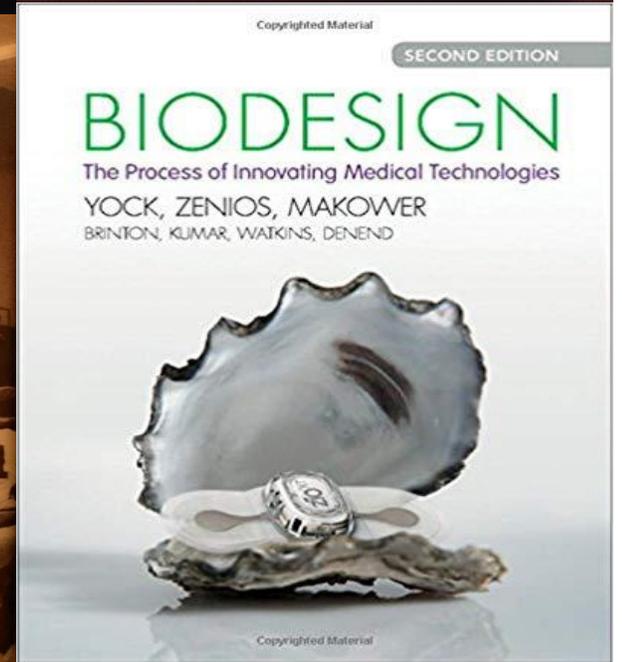
Office of Innovation Origins

“Would you consider moving home to help grow Iowa’s biosciences economy?”

UI President Harreld’s office, Jessup Hall, late 2016

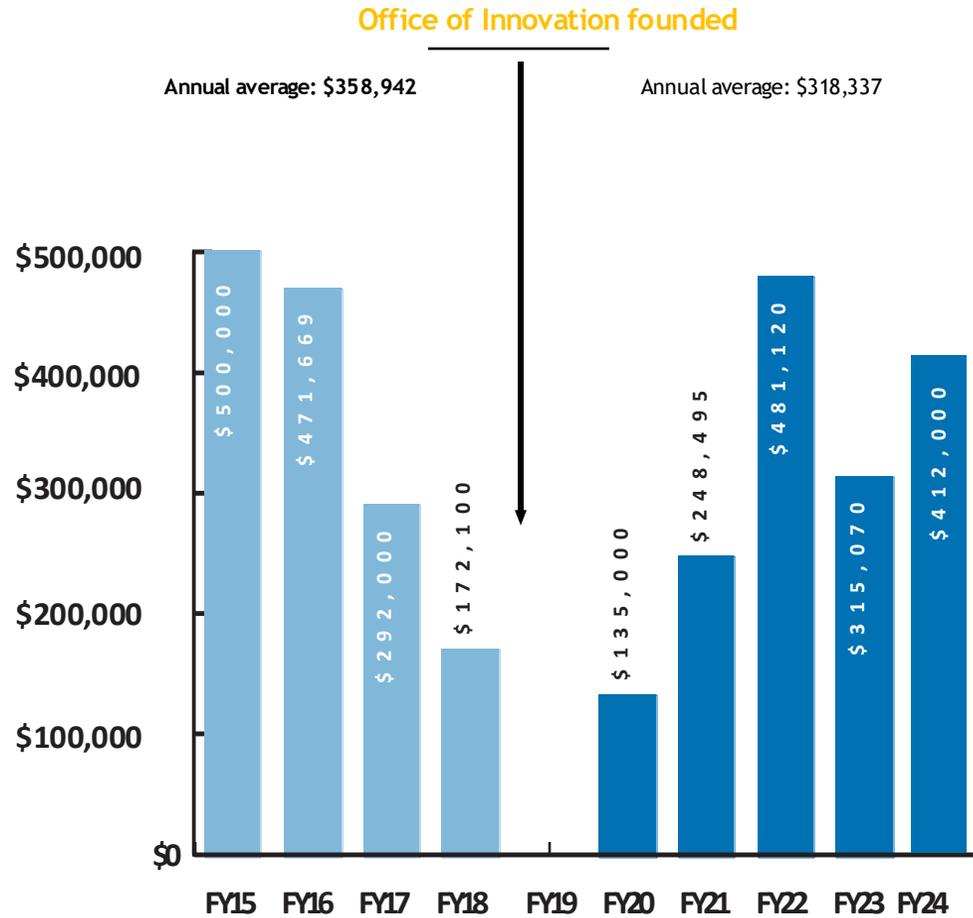
IOWA

Office of Innovation



Seed grants guided by industry leaders

Generates better returns on investment

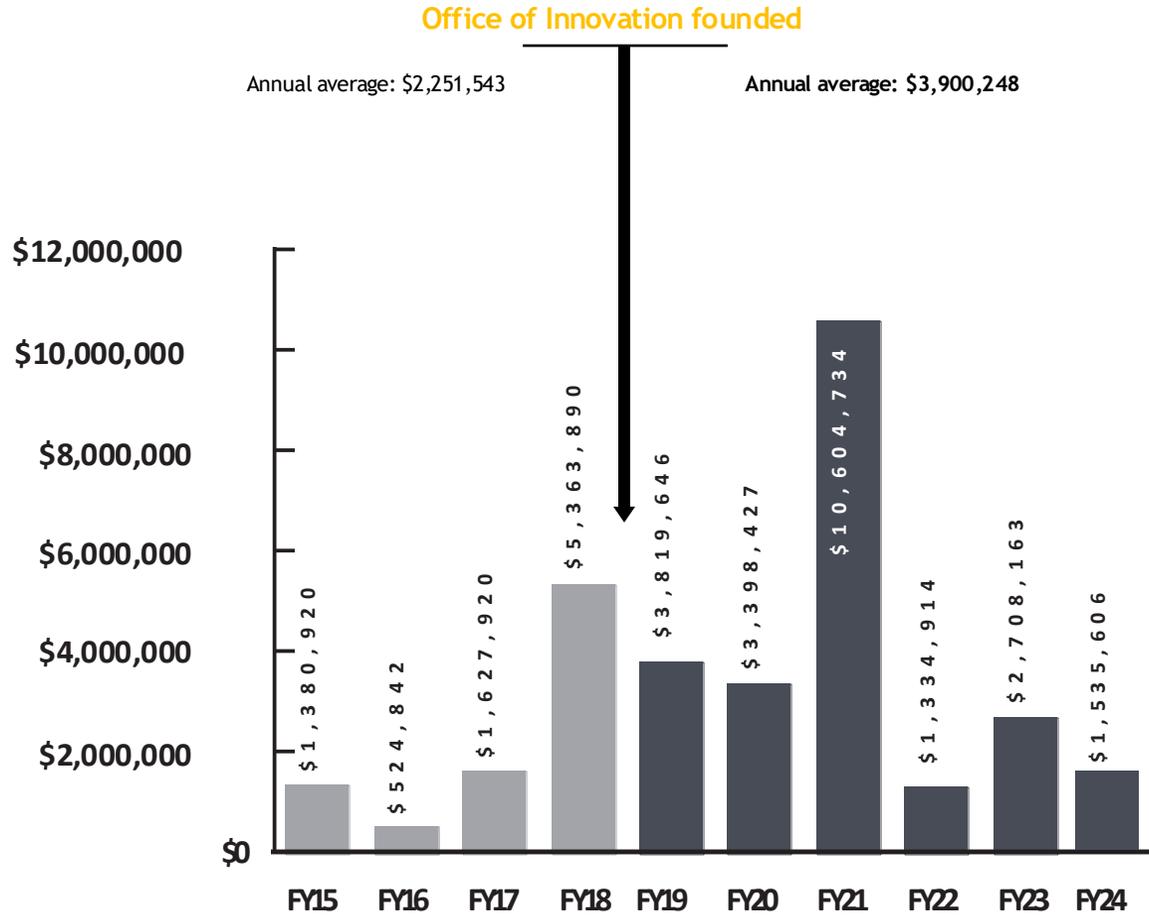


*data sources: UI Ventures, PitchBook, UIRF and IEDA



SBIR/STTR funding a key indicator

A stepping-stone to future success



*data sources: UI Ventures, PitchBook, UIRF and IEDA



Halide Biologics



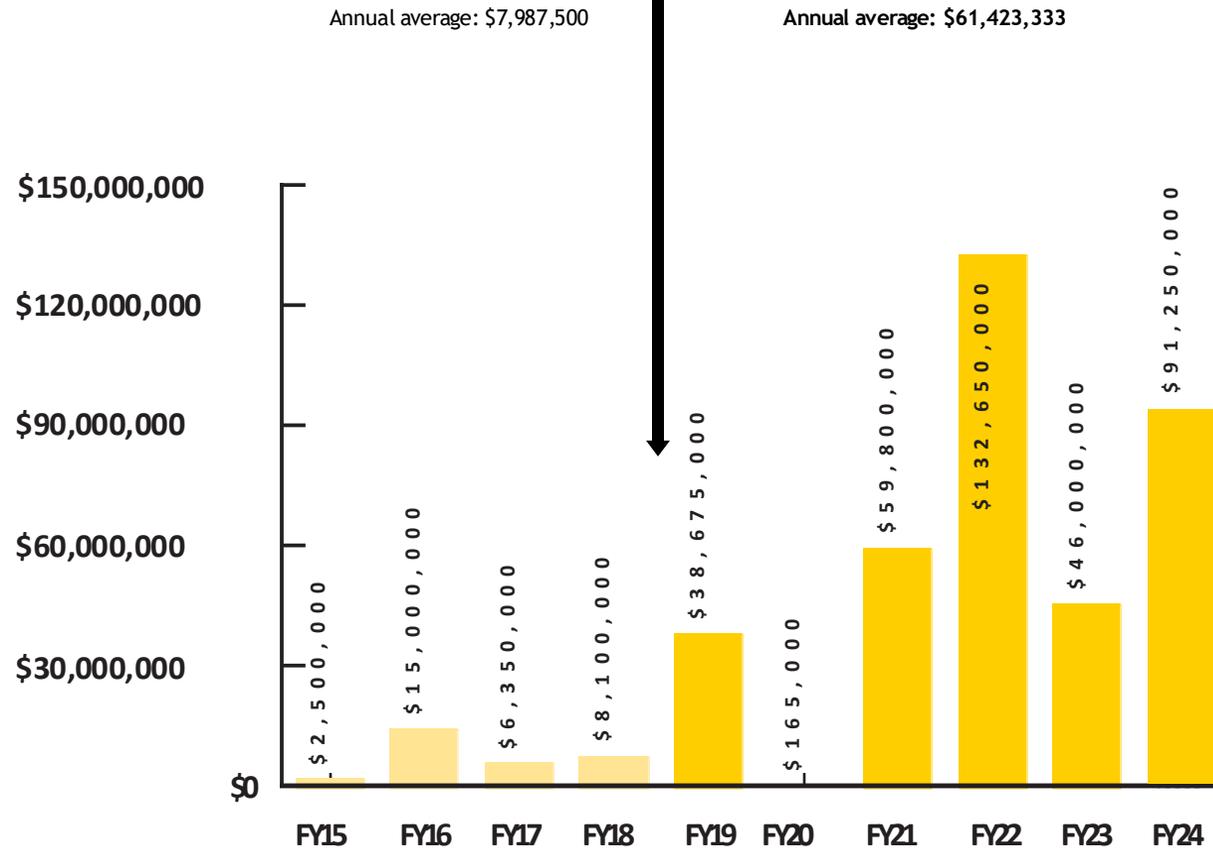
IOWA

Office of Innovation

Dramatic increase in equity funding

~365M represents a 30x return on your annual investment

Office of Innovation



*data sources: UI Ventures, PitchBook, UIRF and IEDA

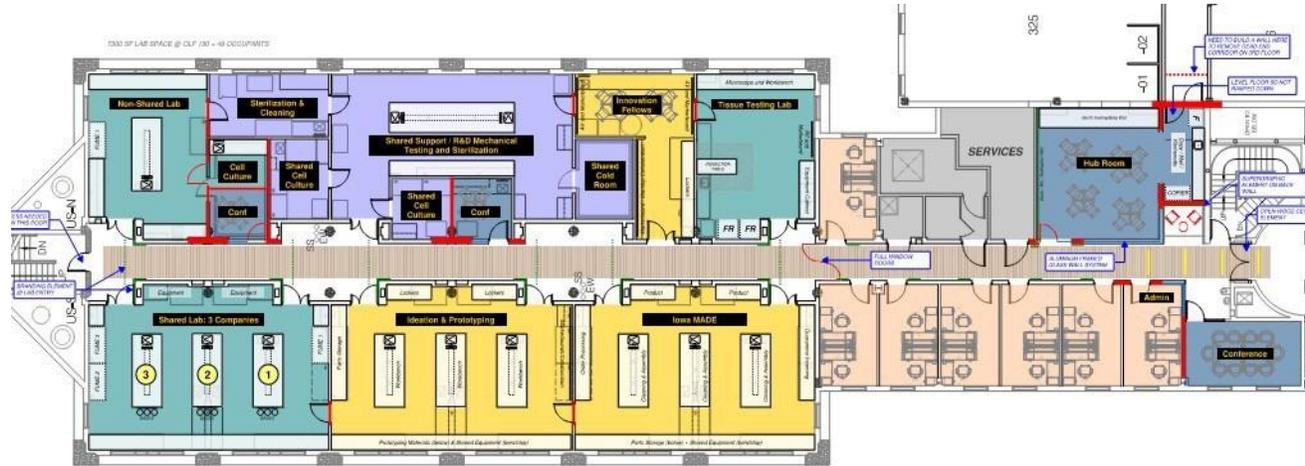


IOWA

Office of Innovation

Medical Innovation Launch Laboratory

Grant from Gov Reynolds is creating first ever on campus home for inventors and entrepreneurs



Impact:

- Increase industry/faculty collaborations
- Bring startups to life faster
- Creative collision space for entrepreneurial students, faculty and staff



IOWA

Iowa Nurse Innovators Program

Allie Hurt, MSN, RN
Office of Innovation
Staff Nurse MICU, Intensive & Specialty
Services -UI Health Care



Nurse Innovator Pilot

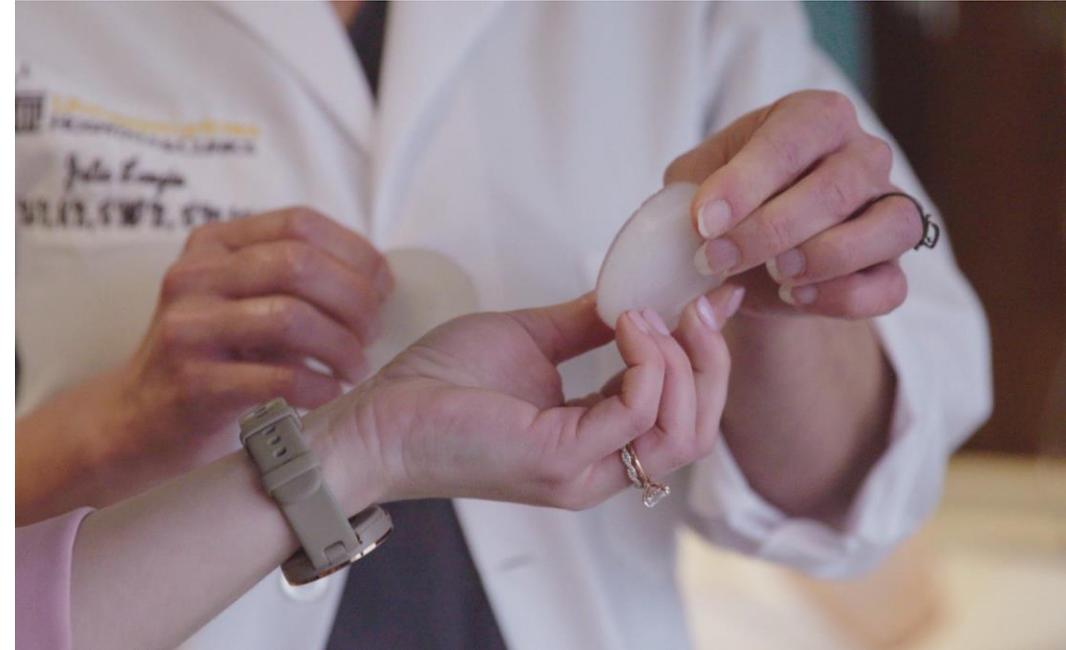
Nobody knows patient safety better than nurses

Office of Innovation matched Kauffman Foundation award of \$400k to Pilot Program FY '23-'25

- Create rural focus
- Involve local or state econ dev organizations
- Build a statewide network of nurse inventors
- Partnered locally and nationally to build program

Pilot Impact

- 1000 nurses exposed
- 54 vetted solutions / 38 projects
- Several patent disclosures filed
- 4 product solutions currently in use



End to End Support for Nurse Inventors

IOWA

UI Ventures



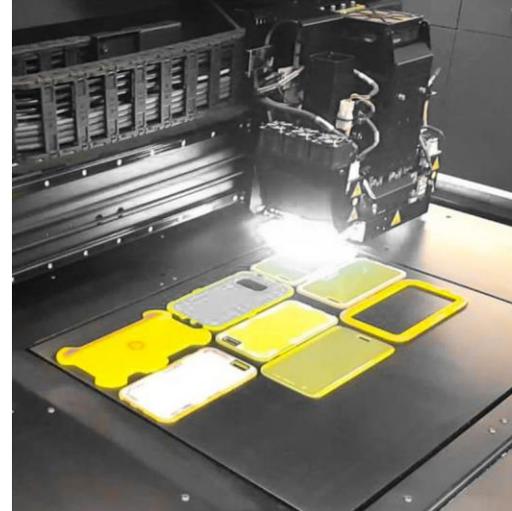
Invention support,
funding,
Go to market
strategy expertise

Maker**HEALTH**

Basic materials for
prototyping,
Coaching throughout
the process



protostudios



Design expertise
3D printing & rapid
prototyping

MADIE

Manufacturing
expertise, e-commerce
sales and
marketing presence



IOWA

Office of Innovation

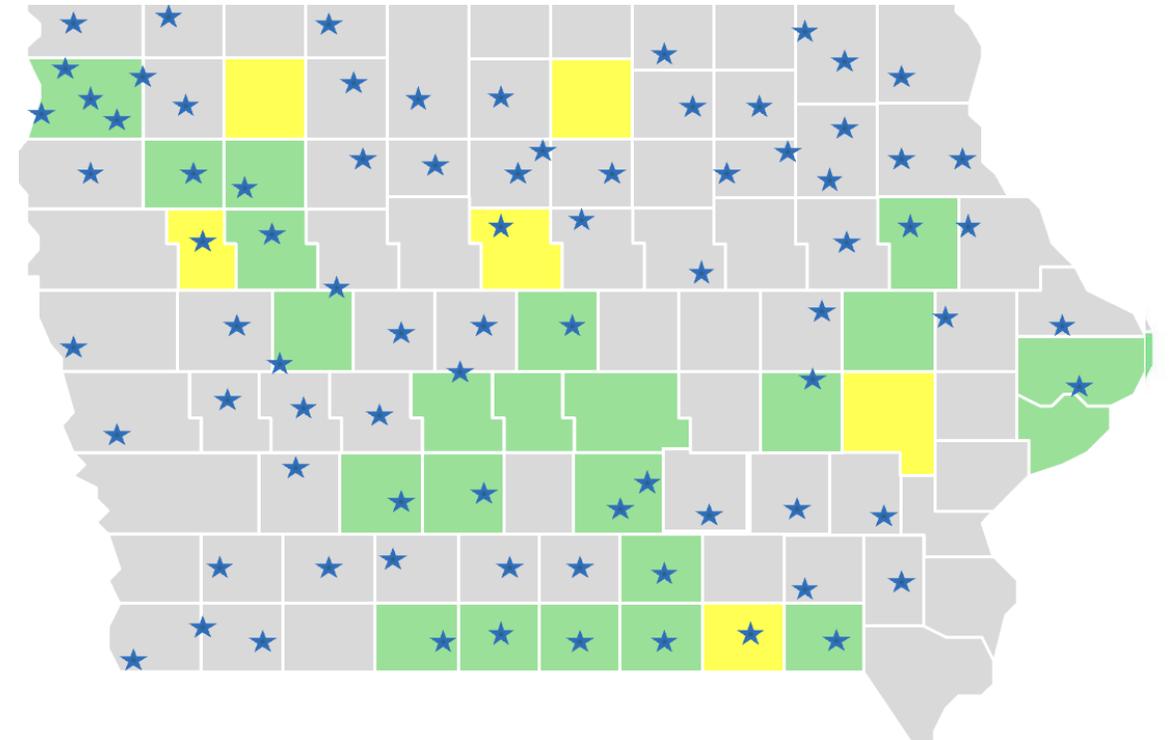
Rural Sustainability is dependent on access to Healthcare

Program Impact

- Improved job satisfaction and motivation among participants
- Program is a recruitment tool for hospitals
- Broad interest within State nursing community (and health systems in other states) –touched 30 counties so far
- Majority of solutions coming forward improve patient safety

Appropriations request: \$1M to facilitate nurse inventors statewide

- Launch a sustainable statewide community of nurse inventors and entrepreneurs
- Help keep local nurses local –make Iowa a magnet for nurses
- Empower, recognize and reward entrepreneurial behavior
- Transform Iowa into a national leader in patient safety



Iowa has 83 Critical Access Hospitals

Active Projects

Prospective Projects

★ Critical Access Hospitals

Driving economic development and innovation

Thank you for
your continued
support!



IOWA

Office of Innovation

IOWA

Economic Development & Innovation Review

Jon Darsee

Chief Innovation Office

President - UI Research Park Corporation

March 3, 2025