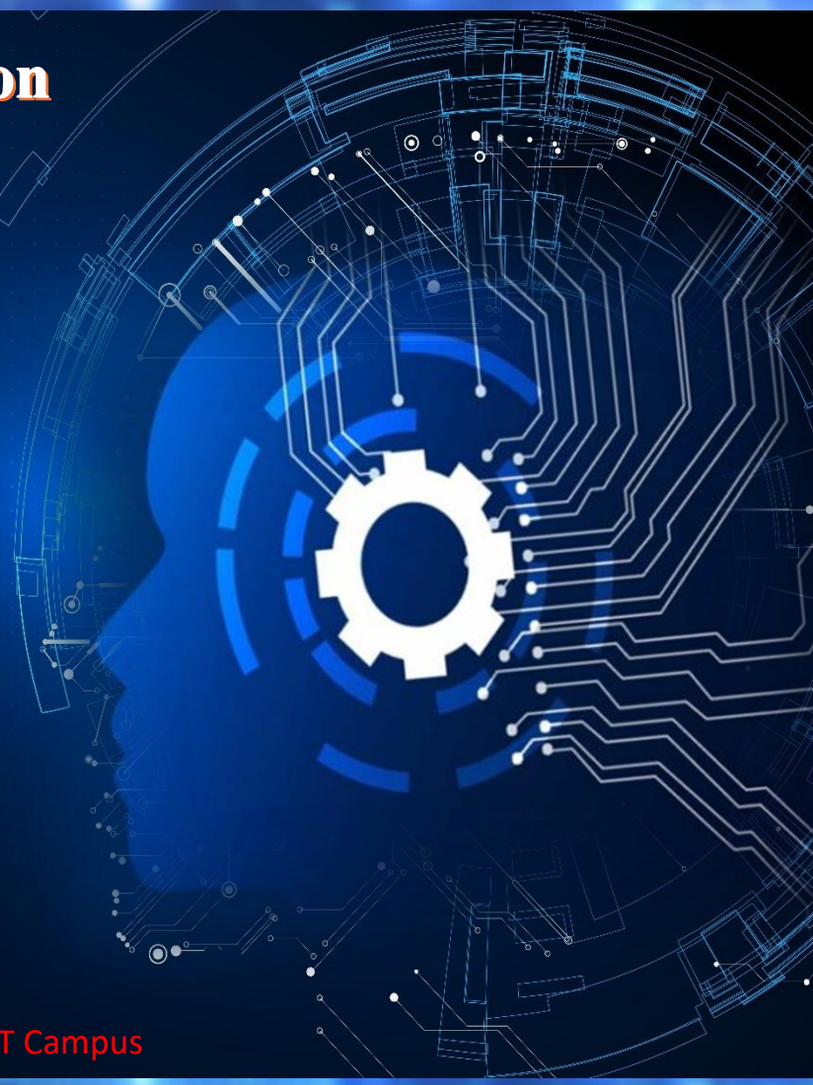
NJIT | CTR Center for Translational Research New Jersey Institute of Technology

CTR 2025 Badge Workshop on Intellectual Property and Value Creation in Translational Research



Sponsored by
National Science Foundation
ART (Accelerating Research Translation) Program at NJIT and National Academy of Inventor (NAI) – NJIT Chapter

June 17-18, 2025 | 9:00AM – 4:00 PM | CKB 116, NJIT Campus

NSF ART ACCELERATING RESEARCH TRANSLATION

NJIT New Jersey Institute of Technology
Chapter of the National Academy of Inventors

Program

Center for Translational Research
New Jersey Institute of Technology

New Jersey Institute of Technology
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CTR 2025 Badge Workshop on
Intellectual Property and Value Creation in Translational Research

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NSF ART (Accelerating Research Translation) Program at NJIT
National Academy of Inventor (NAI) – NJIT Chapter

Co-organizers and Co-Chairs
Atam Dhawan, Senior Vice Provost for Research, NJIT; Executive Director – Center for Translational Research
Govi Rao, Chief Executive Officer, Phase Change Solutions

Date and Venue: June 17-18, 9.00 AM – 4.00 PM; CKB 116, NJIT Campus

CTR Badge Workshop Information Folder	CTR Website
	Center for Translational Research

CTR Badge Workshop Organizing Committee

Atam Dhawan, Senior Vice Provost for Research, NJIT; Executive Director – Center for Translational Research
Govi Rao, Chief Executive Officer, Phase Change Solutions
John Winston, Vice President for Health and Life Science Programs, American Defense International, Inc.

Shawn Chester, Associate Vice Provost for Research Collaborations and Partnerships; Associate Director, Center for Translational Research
Cesar Bandera, Associate Professor of Entrepreneurship, Martin Tuchman School of Management
Michael Ehrlich, Professor of Finance, Martin Tuchman School of Management
Sherie Dodson, Associate Director, Office of Intellectual Property and Tech Transfer
Iris Pantoja, Operations Director, Center for Translational Research
Cesar Sanchez, Web Coordinator, NJIT Center for Translational Research

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Brief Description: The Center for Translational Research is committed to promoting excellence in collaborative research, innovation partnerships, entrepreneurial pathways, education, training and infrastructure development to translate technology into applications with a high societal and economic impact. To follow up on the CTR mission to enhance the research, innovation and technology entrepreneurship ecosystem at NJIT, we have initiated a series of CTR workshops on Intellectual Property and Tech Transfer in Translational Research for Value Creation with educational and discussion forums to enhance our understanding and facilitate pathways to innovation partnerships and value creation. The CTR badge work will provide faculty, postdocs and students an opportunity to interact with experts on early and advanced translational research, tech transfer, licensing and creating partnerships-based start-ups for entrepreneurial activities.

Who Should Attend: Faculty, research staff, undergraduate and graduate students and postdocs and external partners who are pursuing or are interested in understanding pathways to translational research and innovation partnerships based value creation for technology translation to use-inspired applications and societal impact should attend and would be benefited from the badge workshop.

The CTR badge workshop is required to all innovators and principal investigators funded by CTR translational research seed grants including TITA and CERT seed grants. Faculty who are planning to submit TITA or CERT seed grant proposals should attend as they will have the opportunity to network with TITA external advisory board members and learn value creation and investment presentation tactics from successful entrepreneurs.

Why You Should Attend: The CTR workshop agenda will bring key stakeholder groups including academic innovators, industry, government and community leaders to focus on understanding their perspectives and expectations on developing and sustaining partnerships-based value creation roadmap for technology translation from lab to market. The workshop will provide a unique forum of "Reverse Pitch Presentations" from successful entrepreneurs to academic innovators on innovation translation and value creation followed by open discussion on understanding the importance of value based effective communication to stakeholders to develop and sustain productive partnerships in translational research. The badge workshop will also provide information and interactive scenario-based case-studies in the processes of acquisition of Intellectual Property and technology transfer (such as licensing or formation of start-up companies) activities towards potential commercialization for value creation and innovation translation to market for societal benefits.

Agenda

June 17, 2025

9.00 AM – 9.30 AM:	Registration, Breakfast and Networking
9.30 AM – 9.35 AM:	Welcome Remarks and Outline of the CTR Badge Workshop Atam Dhawan, Senior Vice Provost for Research Govi Rao, Chief Executive Officer, Phase Change Solutions
9.35 AM – 9.40 AM:	John Pelesko, Provost, NJIT
9.40 AM – 9.45 AM:	Introduction to Reverse Pitch Presentation Session Atam Dhawan
9.45 AM – 10.15 AM:	Reverse Pitch Presentations (From Entrepreneurs to Faculty/Academic Innovators Playing as Investors) Moderator: Atam Dhawan Presenters: Govi Rao, Chief Executive Officer, Phase Change Solutions Cesar Bandera, Founding Partner, Cell Podium; Assoc. Professor of Entrepreneurship, NJIT Charmi Chande, Coordinator, NSF I-Corps Northeast Hub @ NJIT Marc Long, Executive Vice President, Research & Development, MTF Biologics and Som Mitra, CEO, Neat Bioscience
10.15 AM – 11.45 AM:	Faculty Investor Team Discussion with Pitch Presenters
11.45 AM – 12.15 PM:	Faculty Investor Teams Presentations on the Investment Choices with Assessment and Justification Moderator: Atam Dhawan
12.15 PM – 12.30 PM:	Summary and Take-Home Messages for Virtual Investment Allocations: Development of Value Proposition Benchmarking Evaluations from Experienced Investors and Entrepreneurs by Brian Kiernan and Manish Patel
12.30 PM – 1.00 PM:	Lunch and Networking
1.00 PM – 2.00 PM:	Interactive Keynote Presentations Value Proposition to Value Creation 1.00 PM – 1.30 PM: Govi Rao 1.30 PM – 2.00 PM: Marc Long

2.00 P – 3.30 PM:	Interactive Small Group Breakout Sessions: Securing IP for Value Creation Moderators: Sanjiv Chokshi, Sherie Dodson and Cesar Bandera Innovative Solutions to Real-World Problems and IP Protection The Whys and Whats of IP Protection Investor Focus on Patents NJIT-Ready Invention Disclosures USPTO-Ready Invention Disclosures USPTO-Ready Patent Applications Post-Provisional Filing Considerations Confidentiality vs Public Disclosure Value Creation from IP Acquisition and Follow Up
3.30 PM – 4.00 PM:	Summary and Take-Home Messages on Best Practices on IP and Value Creation Moderator: Shawn Chester and Sherie Dodson

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June 18, 2025

9.00 AM – 9.30 AM:	Registration, Breakfast and Networking
9.30 AM – 10.00 AM:	Welcome Remarks and Review of the CTR Badge Workshop Program: Day-2 Atam Dhawan, Senior Vice Provost for Research Govi Rao, Chief Executive Officer, Phase Change Solutions
10.00 AM – 11.00 AM:	Interactive Presentations on Tech Transfer Processes and Resources Moderator: Atam Dhawan 10.00 AM – 10.30 AM: Barry Datlof, Chief, Business Development & Commercialization, Medical Technology Transfer, Defense Health Agency – Tech Transfer Processes 10.30 AM- 10.45 AM: Sherie Dodson, Associate Director, IP and Tech Transfer Office, NJIT – Tech Transfer Processes and Requirements 10.45 AM – 11.00 AM: Shawn Chester, AVP- Research Collaborations and Partnerships – Tech Transfer Processes – Institutional Approvals
11.00 AM – 12.15 PM:	Interactive Breakout Session: Developing Pathways for Tech Transfer Moderators: Cesar Bandera, Barry Datlof and Sherie Dodson How to develop translational partnerships for tech transfer?

	How to develop value proposition and networking strategies with stakeholders for tech transfer or plan for start-ups? What to disclose and how to pitch while your patent is pending? What to expect and how to find resources for tech transfer?
12.15 PM – 12.30 PM:	Summary and Take-Home Messages on Preparing and Following up on Tech Transfer Processes Moderator: Atam Dhawan and Barry Datlof
12.30 PM – 1.00 PM:	Lunch and Networking
1.00 PM – 2.00 PM	Interactive Panel Presentation Sustaining Partnerships During Translational Research and Value Creation with Start-Ups Moderator: Atam Dhawan 1.00 PM – 1.05 PM: Moderator Remarks and Introductions 1.05 PM – 1.40 PM: Panel Presentations (6-7 minutes presentations by each panelist) Govi Rao, Chief Executive Officer, Phase Change Solutions Vivek Kumar, Associate Professor, Biomedical Engineering, NJIT John Winston, Vice President for Health and Life Science Programs, American Defense International, Inc. or Lauren Palestrini, Chief Science Officer, Advancing Medical Innovation, Medical Technology Enterprise Consortium (MTEC) 1.40 PM – 2.00 PM: Q&A and Discussions
2.00 PM – 3.30 PM:	Interactive Breakout Session: Value Creation Moderators: Michael Ehrlich, Shawn Chester and Barry Datlof What to expect to enhance academic professional development milestones include promotion and tenure from tech transfer and entrepreneurship activities? How to communicate with partners and investors for creating a start-up? How to create a start-up and define roles in start-up as academic faculty? How to find resources and develop a business development plan? How to fund and find investment to sustain a start-up?
3.30 PM – 4.00 PM:	Summary and Take-Home Messages on Best Practices on Value Creation while in Academia Moderators: Atam Dhawan and Govi Rao

Detailed Agenda for the Reverse Pitch Presentation and Investment Discussion Session
9.45 AM – 12.30 PM; June 17, 2025

CTR Badge Workshop: Faculty Investor Team Assessment and Virtual Investment Allocation Form Link: https://forms.gle/zf6vq2ey6jfxe3wFA

Team Assessment Form

1. Four Pitch Presentations from Entrepreneurs (5-6 minutes each).

9.45 AM – 9.52 AM: Govi Rao
9.52 AM – 10.00 AM: Cesar Bandera
10.00 AM – 10.07 AM: Charmi Chande
10.07 AM – 10.15 AM: Marc Long and Som Mitra

2. Faculty Investor Team Discussion with Pitch Presenters

Faculty investor teams will discuss potential investment deals with pitch presenters to invest. Each team will have 2 to 3 faculty and students as investors. The four pitch presenters will be available on the assigned tables for discussion with faculty investor teams. Each faculty investor team will go to respective tables in rounds and discuss the investment deals and expectations. They will then fill out the investment assessment forms and finalize the deals considering ROI and associated risks. Minimum investment is $500k and maximum investment is $1 million. Faculty investors can invest into one or two companies. The faculty investor teams will discuss potential investments with pitch presenters with the following schedule.

Round #	Govi Rao	Cesar Bandera	Charmi Chande	Marc Long Som Mitra
10.15 - 10.25 AM	Team A	Team B	Team C	Team D
10.25 - 10.35 AM	Team E	Team F	Team G	Team H
10.35 - 10.45 AM	Team B	Team C	Team D	Team A
10.45 - 10.55 AM	Team F	Team G	Team H	Team E
10.55 - 11.05 AM	Team C	Team D	Team A	Team B
11.05 - 11.15 AM	Team G	Team H	Team E	Team F
11.15 - 11.25 AM	Team D	Team A	Team B	Team C
11.25 - 11.35 AM	Team H	Team E	Team F	Team G
11.35 – 11.45 AM	Team Discussion and Completion of Investments Assessment Forms			

3. Faculty Investor Teams Presentations on the Investment Choices with Assessment and Justification

11.45 AM – 12.15 PM: Investment Briefing from 8 Faculty Teams

4. Summary and Take-Home Messages: Value Creation

12.15 PM – 12.30 PM: Benchmarking Evaluations from Experienced Investors and Entrepreneurs by Brian Kiernan and Manish Patel

Biographical Sketches

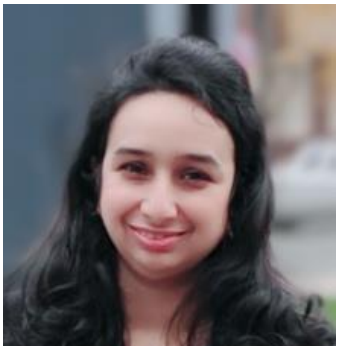
Govi Rao is a visionary thought leader and seasoned business growth architect with more than 25 years of leadership experience globally - scaling businesses and transforming eco-systems across several industries including specialty chemicals, coatings, building materials, lighting, energy and the rapidly evolving Fourth Industrial Revolution. In his current role as CEO of Phase Change Solutions, Govi leads a team of highly innovative and inspiring leaders, with a vision to decarbonize our footprint and enable human health with sustainable solutions to manage temperature in any environment. Govi is a co-founder of CARBON Group Global - a sustainable impact enterprise scaling transformational solutions, specifically to address education, total resiliency of women and resource efficiency (food, energy & water).

Prior to CARBON, Govi was the President and Chief Executive Officer of Noveda Technologies a leader in water and energy management solutions, based in Bridgewater, NJ. Govi is the former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Lighting Science Group Corporation, a leading LED lighting Solutions Company. Govi's experience includes several global leadership roles in Philips Electronics and Rohm and Haas Company (now part of Dow Chemical) – spanning a range of businesses across several geographies. In addition to his experience with a wide business portfolio, Govi has extensive functional expertise that includes strategic planning, product management, marketing, operations, leadership development and general management. Govi has built winning teams that achieved extraordinary goals in start-ups as well as mature businesses – pioneering and inspiring profitable and sustainable growth.

Cesar Bandera, Ph.D. holds the Leir Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurship at the Martin Tuchman School of Management of the New Jersey Institute of Technology. His research interests include entrepreneurship pedagogy and entrepreneurial ecosystems with a focus on healthcare and autonomous platforms. Bandera has also launched successful ventures in the m-Health industry, and is founding partner of Cell Podium - one of the NIH "Small Business Success Stories" (https://seed.nih.gov/portfolio/stories).

Bandera received his Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University at Buffalo, NY, with a specialization in biomimetics and active vision. He is recipient of the NASA Space Act award, Small Business of the Year Nominations from the United States Department of Defense, NIH Small Business Innovation Research Success Story designation, and four patents. He has also authored book chapters and publications in research journals including the Journal of Small Business Management, IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management, Electronic Commerce Research, and BMC Public Health. Bandera is Associate Editor of the IEEE Journal of Translational Engineering in Health and Medicine, Associate Editor of the International Journal

of Mobile Network Design and Innovation, Guest Editor of the Journal of Small Business and Enterprise Development, Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, member of the National Academy of Inventors and the AACSB Entrepreneurship and Innovation Steering Committee, and NJIT Master Teacher. He has served on the board of the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and as Director of the Academy of the International Council for Small Business.



Charmi Chande, Ph.D. is a distinguished professional with over seven years of extensive global experience in deep tech technologies, focusing on microfluidics-based sensors for detecting osteoporosis, uncultivable microbes, forever chemicals, and microtoxins. With a background spanning India, Germany, and the USA, Charmi has made remarkable contributions to her field, boasting an impressive portfolio of 15+ publications and 4 patents.
As the CEO of the NJIT spin-off PFASolve, LLC, Charmi has showcased her entrepreneurial acumen by spearheading the development of groundbreaking diagnostic solutions and fostering collaborative efforts within the scientific community.

Charmi's role as an NSF I-Corps Administrative Coordinator and mentor for NSF Northeast Regional I-Corps has provided her with invaluable insights into program management, grant administration, and strategic planning. Her dedication to advancing scientific knowledge and translating research into practical applications underscores her commitment to driving positive change in the field of microbiology and biotechnology.

Marc Long, Ph.D. is currently Executive Vice President of R&D at MTF Biologics, leading the new tissue, product and technology development teams, clinical affairs, intellectual property and grants, and project management groups. Marc has also recently taken the lead for Strategy & Business Development at MTF, as well as Health Policy & Government Affairs. Marc's previous 20+ years of industry experience focused on evaluating and developing biologics products and technologies for device companies. His focus was to scout and transfer new technologies and companies within the Stryker portfolio through licensing, acquisition, and collaboration. Marc's previous roles with Stryker included leadership in the Spine, Orthobiologics, Sports Medicine, and Joint Reconstruction divisions. Before that, he worked at Smith & Nephew Orthopaedics and Biologics. Marc received his PhD in Bioengineering in 1999 and MSc in Materials Science & Engineering in 1992 from Clemson University after graduating from Arts et Métiers ParisTech in 1989 with an Engineering Diploma. Marc was born in Cannes, France.

Manish Patel: Manish Patel, founder of TrickyWater, a small business advisory firm, is currently Director of Brand Innovation at Princeton Partners, a strategic brand marketing firm. Manish is a skilled engineer and leader with creative and innovative capabilities. He is a successful entrepreneur with proven consultancy, product development, management, and strategic analysis skills. Analytical skills vital in referencing developmental, production, and supervisory skills across multiple industries to maximize profitability and satisfaction of clients in various technical and creative fields. Produced results for all companies by branding, marketing, and procuring revolutionary designs and enhanced digital developments. He loves challenges and helping clients solve problems. Manish was at Omnicom Agency, Arnell where he was Lead Project Manager reporting directly to Chairman of Arnell Group. He managed Innovation Lab teams comprised of artists, designers and engineers developing innovative brand solutions, strategies and products. Key Client Experience included Project Lead for The Home Depot - OrangeWorks innovation initiative, delivering several product SKUs in key categories in collaboration with senior merchandisers, including the Home Hero brand. While having Chrysler Automotive as a client, he was Project Leader and C-Suite Liaison for innovation programs in the areas of automotive design, NAV system user interface design, and electric vehicle programs. He also managed relationships with leading global design studios Pininfarina and Giugiaro in Italy. He introduced process and stage gate methodology and applied it to creative development process.

Manish also worked on the re-brand of the iconic Fontainebleau Hotel and the strategy behind building an experience that once again made the hotel a cornerstone of the Miami high end lifestyle destination. He has also helped small New Jersey businesses maximize their advertising success with the introduction of innovative methods for reaching consumers.
Manish obtained a BSME from Drexel University and an MS Management from NJIT. Now he enjoys giving back to the school by serving on their Undergraduate Research and Innovation External Advisory Board. When he is not working, he can be seen coaching soccer, playing volleyball or managing the family dog's social media page.

Brian Kiernan, retired vice president and chief scientist of InterDigital Communications, LLC, possesses a dynamic combination of technical expertise and leadership savvy that has fueled his outstanding achievements in the development of computer and communication standards and systems. He received a B.S. in electrical engineering from Newark College of Engineering in 1970, and an M.S. in Management Science/Operations Research from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Kiernan, who was recognized at the 2016 NCE Salute to Engineering Excellence for his achievements since graduation, was directly responsible for InterDigital's worldwide technology and industry standards activities and aided in developing new market, product and technology initiatives by providing strategic technical and marketing support to

InterDigital's sales, marketing and business development efforts as well as the company's worldwide patent and licensing programs.

Previously, Kiernan was president of USTC World Trade Corporation, an international sales and marketing subsidiary of InterDigital's predecessor company, International Mobile Machines (IMM). Having full P&L accountability for IMM's international business, he quadrupled revenues in two years and opened new markets—primarily in Asia and Latin America—that accounted for over 90 percent of InterDigital's past product revenue. Prior to his sales position, Kiernan was IMM's vice president of Engineering and Operations. His product line responsibilities covered all areas of product development and sales engineering, manufacturing, product support and quality assurance of IMM's UltraPhone® TDMA Wireless Local Loop product.

Under Mr. Kiernan's tutelage, IMM/InterDigital grew from an unknown tiny telecom company with a big idea and zero revenue to an acknowledged worldwide force in mobile communications with some 14,000 patents, annual revenue in excess of $500M and a $2B market cap. Before joining IMM, Kiernan was a senior staff engineer at GTE Products Corporation, where he generated and evaluated military communications systems concepts that included mobile and fixed station radio, circuit and message switching, and network management and control. Kiernan's program and technical management experience encompassed TDMA and CDMA voice and data systems, digital and analog switching, and VHF/UHF and microwave radio. He was also active in both communications and non-communications Electronic Warfare systems development. He has been a speaker at numerous industry conferences, published numerous papers and articles, and holds 30 patents.

He was awarded the IEEE Standards Medallion in 2006 and the IEEE Hans Karlsson Award in 2013 for his extraordinary skill and dedication in chairing the complex task groups that developed the IEEE 802.16a, 802.16e, and 802.16m WirelessMAN standards, the world's first 4G Wireless standards. The Hans Karlsson Award honors outstanding skills and dedication to diplomacy, team facilitation and joint achievement in the development of standards in the computer industry.

After retiring from InterDigital, Mr. Kiernan has put his extensive technical and managerial talents to work, serving as Chair of the Albert Dorman Honors College Interdisciplinary Design Studio (IDS) program which morphed into the NJIT Undergraduate Research and Innovation (URI) Program. In this capacity, Kiernan, along with other URI Board members, evaluates and guides numerous student projects, several of which have developed into student companies. As an active Angel Investor, Kiernan has invested in some of these student companies and continues to guide them as they develop. He is also an active member of the NJIT ECE Industry Advisory Board.

Barry Datlof is the Chief, Business Development and Commercialization for the Office of Medical Technology Transfer at the Defense Health Agency Research and Development (DHA R&D). The DHA R&D partners with academia, not for profits, industry and other federal agencies to bring biomedical solutions to the Warfighter and civilians through licensing and cooperative research and development. Their portfolio includes technologies in therapeutics, vaccines, diagnostics, devices, and IT. They support inventors from DHA, the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force, and whenever biomedical licensing expertise is needed. Labs are located throughout the U.S. and overseas.

He is an entrepreneur as well. He cofounded Pregamma, LLC, a female fertility company dedicated to significantly improving the ability of women in their late thirties and early forties to conceive and achieve healthy, full-term pregnancies. He also founded BirchBob, the first XML-based search engine for identifying technologies available for licensing from government, academic, and industry labs. Previously, he founded the technology transfer offices for the American Red Cross and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. He received an MBA from the University of Chicago and BA from Swarthmore College.

Deborah Perez Fernandez is the Executive Director of Technology Transfer at Rutgers University. Prior to joining the office in 2010, Deb worked in an intellectual property law firm as a technology specialist, drafting patent applications and responses to U.S. and foreign office actions in various technological fields. Before that, she was a post-doctoral fellow at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary/Harvard Medical School studying degenerative changes in the cochlea that lead to hearing loss. Deb holds a MS in Chemical Engineering and Organic Chemistry from the University of Strasbourg, and a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from ETH Zurich. Her Ph.D. work focused on aminoglycoside antibiotics that selectively target bacterial 16S ribosomal RNA. Deb also holds an MBA from the Isenberg School of Management at UMass Amherst. She is a USPTO registered patent agent and a certified licensing professional.

Lauren Palestrini, Ph.D. is the Chief Science Officer at MTEC, where she serves as the lead technology officer within the medical product development activities, oversees the development of technology solutions that will meet industry commercialization targets, conducts initial technology assessments, and maintains adequate coverage of military clinical needs. Dr. Palestrini is also working on generating external funding streams through fundraising. Dr. Palestrini earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering from Cornell University, and a Doctoral Degree in Biomedical Engineering from Stony Brook University. Her graduate work focused on the development of a biodegradable, electrospun fiber mat for the topical

delivery of a novel fibronectin-derived peptide for the limitation of burn injury progression. Until recently, she served as the Director of Research at the New Jersey Center for Biomaterials at Rutgers University where she managed a cross-disciplinary set of research projects in support of the Department of Defense-funded Armed Forces Institute of Regenerative Medicine (AFIRM) cooperative agreement within regenerative medicine. In addition, her prior experience includes process development at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, research and development at Johnson & Johnson Consumer Products, and human resources at Deutsche Bank.

John Winston is Vice President for Health & Life Science Programs at American Defense International, Inc.
Mr. Winston was a senior staff member at the Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center (TATRC) at the United States Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) employed as a contractor through The Geneva Foundation. Mr. Winston started with TATRC in 1999 and was involved in the development of most of TATRC's business and research processes, particularly as they relate to research review and adjudication. He has an extensive background in program management and business development.

As Chief of Research Review, Mr. Winston was primarily responsible for managing TATRC's research review and adjudication processes to include providing support to USAMRMC Joint Program Committees (JPCs) and Program Area Directorates (PADs) in the areas of Program Announcement ideation, creation, and execution. Mr. Winston worked closely with TATRC and JPC/PAD Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to define research objectives, research strategies, and all matters relating to solicitation and funding of specific projects to meet TATRC/JPC/PAD priorities. Mr. Winston was responsible for managing all external review processes, and deliverables. As a function of his research review duties, Mr. Winston convened and chaired regular Proposal Review Board (PRB) meetings and produced summaries for the Director, TATRC. Mr. Winston's expertise extends to the execution of various, customized, review processes that address ad-hoc requirements.

As Program Manager for the AMEDD Advanced Medical Technology Initiative (AAMTI), Mr. Winston was responsible for the design, execution, and management of this annual Army Medical Department (AMEDD) technology demonstration program. Mr. Winston was responsible for establishing the AAMTI in 1999, and led this effort throughout his tenure at TATRC. Through the AAMTI, drawing on his program management, business development, and communication skills, Mr. Winston enabled the successful demonstration of medical technologies at all AMEDD Regional Health Commands, and has supported the development of medical innovators throughout the ranks of AMEDD personnel.

As Director for Business Development, Mr. Winston was responsible for communicating with entities wishing to do business with TATRC and USAMRMC. Mr. Winston advised industry and academia on matters relating to funding opportunities, research areas of interest, research proposal writing, military requirements and priorities, and other matters.

Vivek A. Kumar, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor of Biomedical and Chemical Engineering and Biology at NJIT. His lab pioneers the rational design of self-assembling peptides and biomaterials for therapeutic applications in inflammation, angiogenesis, and tissue regeneration. Dr. Kumar has been PI on translational research seed grants through NJIT's TITA and CERT programs and is an active participant in the NSF ART initiative. He has also led NIH- and NSF-SBIR/STTR efforts focused on hydrogel-based therapeutics advancing NIH R01 projects from his lab. As a translational innovator, he has co-founded several startups advancing peptide-based regenerative products and medical device concepts with non dilutive, Angel and VC investment. With over 60 peer-reviewed publications, he integrates molecular modeling with in vivo validation and trains the next generation of bioengineers in biomaterials, entrepreneurship, and IP strategy.

Michael Ehrlich, Ph.D. had an international Wall Street career before he started a small technology company that he sold in 2007. At the NJIT Martin Tuchman School of Management, Ehrlich is the founding director of the New Jersey Innovation Acceleration Center. He's been active with the NSF I-Corps program since early 2012 as a mentor, principal investigator, I-Corps Site lead, National Innovation Network member, and as the NJIT faculty lead and part of the I-Corps NE Hub leadership team. NJIT won an NSF Accelerating Research Translation grant ($6.7MM 2024 Ehrlich Co-PI) and established the NJIT Center for Translational Research. Ehrlich received his doctorate from Princeton University and bachelor's degree from Yale University.

Shawn Chester, Ph.D. is currently Associate Vice Provost for Research Collaborations and Partnerships and an Associate Professor in Mechanical Engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. Shawn was previously a postdoctoral researcher at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Prior to that he obtained his PhD in solid mechanics from the Mechanical Engineering at MIT and obtained both his BS and MS in Mechanical Engineering from NJIT.

As the inaugural position holder for the Associate Vice Provost for Research Collaborations and Partnerships, Shawn's role is to enhance research collaborations and partnerships, bringing investigators and institutions together to conceptualize and develop large-scale multidisciplinary research initiatives and translate them into compelling funding opportunities. Shawn is Co-Principal Investigator on the NSF Accelerating Research Translational Cooperating Agreement award and Associate Director of the Center for Translational Research at NJIT.

Shawn's research focus in the past few years has been the development of experimentally validated continuum level constitutive theories for large deformation multiphysics behavior of polymeric materials and the associated numerical implementation. His work spans most aspects of mechanics, experimental characterization, theoretical modeling, numerical implementation, and

experimental validation. Shawn has been recognized by young investigator awards through the ASME AMD Thomas J.R. Hughes Award, an NSF CAREER, and the ASME AMD Haythronthwaite award.

Sanjiv Chokshi, Esq. is the Associate General Counsel and Director of Intellectual Property at NJIT, where he is responsible for overseeing patent preparation, prosecution, and portfolio development. A registered patent attorney with extensive law firm and in-house experience, he provides strategic legal and business counsel on intellectual property matters. Recognized for his leadership in research and innovation, he was inducted as an honorary member of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI).

Sanjiv's expertise spans all aspects of intellectual property law, with a particular focus on protecting cutting-edge inventions developed by prolific faculty members and students at NJIT. He plays a pivotal role in the university's intellectual property strategy, contributing to both the legal and business evaluation of patent portfolios. Prior to NJIT, Sanjiv was a patent attorney at a large law firm, where he represented clients in patent litigation and participated in trial proceedings before the U.S. Patent Office.

Committed to fostering the next generation of legal professionals, Sanjiv mentors law students and young attorneys while regularly delivering presentations on intellectual property law. His comprehensive approach to intellectual property protection and strategy continues to advance NJIT's position as a leader in technological innovation.

Sherie Dodson is the Associate Director for Technology Transfer & Intellectual Property at New Jersey Institute of Technology. Previously she served as Executive Director, Legal Operations at Han Santos, PLLC in Seattle, Washington. Before joining the firm, Ms. Dodson spent over fifteen years providing IP operations consulting to law firms and corporations, ranging from startups to Fortune 500 companies, including Microsoft and T-Mobile. Her career focus has been on designing and scaling programs that support and champion innovation.

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