StartUP FIU: sparking creativity, ingenuity, and technology transfer among faculty, students and entrepreneurs

FIU’s Innovation and Economic Development (IED) unit within the Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED) recently reached an agreement with Miami MedTech (MMT) to bring them to FIU’s Modesto Maidique Campus (MMC). The first external startup company to co-locate at FIU, MMT is an innovation center for the medical device industry, providing leadership and resources to translate ideas about medical needs into commercially viable solutions. Located in the OE building, MMT employees plan to work closely with FIU faculty and students to develop its company.

These types of partnerships mark an exciting new role for FIU in Miami’s innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem as plans are well underway to launch StartUP FIU—a University-wide effort to stimulate and support collaboration among faculty, students and entrepreneurs towards the creation and development of local high impact companies. The FIU-MMT agreement is the beginning of an initiative to overcome a regional hurdle—the lack of comprehensive support to foster healthcare innovation through private/academic partnerships. The goal is to create the ideal incubator-type ecosystem in South Florida for inventive and entrepreneurial scientists, researchers and medical professionals to realize the commercial potential of their medical device ideas.

The FIU-MMT collaboration presents a great opportunity for economic development in Miami. The medical devices industry represents a $500B market in which 80 percent of inventions originate from users. Founded by two entrepreneurs with vast experience in medical innovation, Dr. Pedro Martínez Clark, a board-certified interventional cardiologist, and Mr. Max Méndez, a medical device developer and former FIU student in mechanical engineering, MMT is currently developing a product that will provide 150,000 otherwise ineligible patients with access to a cardiovascular treatment device that is far less invasive than conventional approaches. MMT is also working with other local and international innovators, leveraging its unique clinical network in Latin America, to identify a strong portfolio of projects and products with tremendous potential to impact global healthcare.

MMT is just the first of what is expected to be many innovation opportunities available to early stage startups, FIU students and faculty under the auspices of StartUP FIU. Through StartUP FIU, the University is creating the infrastructure to coordinate ongoing efforts to advance its innovative technologies, launch companies and generate jobs for our community. To be located in an 8,000 sf incubator on the third floor of the MARC building, StartUP FIU will deliver signature programming, such as its 13-week program for teams of entrepreneurs that culminates in pitching to real investors, to support the formation of new technology companies. Companies co-locating at FIU will have access to FIU’s facilities and resources, experts and entrepreneurs in residence, and collaboration with innovative and entrepreneurial faculty and students. Partnering with existing University resources such as the College of Business’s Small Business Development Center, CARTA’s Miami Beach Urban Studios, SCI’s TechStation, ORED’s Technology Transfer and Commercialization unit, the College of Law’s Small Business Clinic, the Honors College, and the College of Engineering and Computing, StartUP FIU will be a one-stop shop for entrepreneurs interested in starting their own businesses.

In another exciting development for the IED unit, Dr. Shekhar Bhansali, Dr. Yogeswaran Umasankar, and Mr. Peter Hernández recently received an Innovation Corps (I-Corps) award from the National Science Foundation (NSF) with support from FIU’s Technology Management and Commercialization unit. Dr. Bhansali, chair of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, will be the Principal Investigator (the second time that he has served in this capacity on a NSF I-Corps); Dr. Umasankar, a postdoctoral associate, will be the Entrepreneurial Lead for the team; and Mr. Hernández, Director of FIU’s Technology Management and Commercialization unit, will be the team’s mentor. The team will be exploring the commercial feasibility of a device developed by Dr. Umasankar, a wearable transdermal alcohol sensor capable of continually monitoring the blood alcohol content of its wearer. The activities that this I-Corps team will focus on include development of a working prototype, determination of potential customer needs and requirements, and preparation to launch a company.
Upcoming Events

February 2016

- February 3, 10 am to 12 noon, MARC Pavilion, Global Energy Outlook to 2040, RSVP required
- February 3, 11 am to 5:30 pm, CBC Special Events Center, SLSC All-Hands Meeting—RSVP required
- February 3, 12 to 1:30 pm, Faculty Club, Faculty Mentor Program Lunch Gathering—RSVP for 2/3 Mentor Lunch
- February 4, 12 to 1:30 pm, Faculty Club, Faculty Mentor Program Lunch Gathering—RSVP for 2/4 Mentor Lunch
- February 5, 9 to 10 am, Engineering Campus (EC) #2300, Improvements in Ocular Blood Flow and Vision following Electro-Stimulation Therapies for Retinal Disease, presented by Ava Bittner
- February 5, 3 to 4 pm, EC #2300, Insights into the Culture of the Department of Defense and its Impact on Applied Research Requirements, presented by Joseph Sinicrope
- February 11, 8:30 am to 5 pm, EC #2300, 2016 Workshop of Origami Design for Integration of Self-Assembling Systems for Engineering Innovation, organized by Stavros Georgakopoulos
- February 12, 9 to 10 am, EC #2300, Neural Injury, Plasticity and Respiratory Rehabilitation, presented by David Fuller
- February 19, 8:30 am to 2:30 pm, EC #2300, 6th Annual Undergraduate Research Day
- February 22, 9 am to 12 noon, WC 130, NIH Funding Programs and Resources Seminar for Academic Innovators and Entrepreneurs, RSVP required.

March 2016

- March 1 & 2, 8 am to 5 pm, MARC Pavilion, 6th International Conference on Global Health, RSVP required.
- March 3 & 4, 8 am to 6 pm, MARC Pavilion, 18th Annual Biomedical and Comparative Immunology Symposium
- March 4, 9 to 10 am, EC 2300, Heart Valve Development and Disease Mechanisms, presented by Katherine Yutzey
- March 11, 9 to 10 am, EC 2300, 3D Data, presented by Amir Shmuel
- March 11, 2 to 3 pm, ECS 241, Understanding, Designing and Developing Natural User Interactions for Children, presented by Lisa Anthony.
- March 18, 2 to 3 pm, ECS 241, Using Process Modeling and Analysis Techniques to Reduce Errors in Healthcare, presented by Lori A. Clarke.
- March 25, 9 to 10 am, EC 2300, The Light Works: Non-invasive 3D Optical Imaging of Tissue Morphology and Microcirculations in Vivo, presented by Ruikang (Ricky) Wang
- March 25, 2 to 3 pm, ECS 241, SCIS Distinguished Women Lecture Series, presented by Tracy Camp.

Awards Received—December 2015

FIU researchers were awarded $10,413,487 in December 2015. Below is a listing of awards received.

**PI:** Malek Adjouadi  
**ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Science Foundation  
**TITLE:** MRI: Development of an Integrated Neuroimaging Instrument  
**AWARD:** $3,755,112

**PI:** Marisela Agudelo  
**COM IMMUNOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Increase  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Institutes of Health  
**TITLE:** EtOH-induced Immunomodulation: Role of Histone Deacetylases  
**AWARD:** $25,257

For updates, corrections, suggestions, and/or general comments, please email Mercedes.rodriguez@fiu.edu
PI: Benjamin C Amick Iii  
**HEALTH POLICY AND MGMT**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Univ of Texas Health Science Ctr Houston  
**TITLE:** Service Agreement - New Year New You  
**AWARD:** $ 22,669

PI: Joann Arnowitz  
**JEWSH MUSEUM OF FLORIDA-FIU**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs  
**TITLE:** FY 2015-2016 (MCI) Grants Program  
**AWARD:** $ 161,386

PI: Shekhar Bhansali  
**ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG**  
**Award Action Type:** Supplemental  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** North Carolina State University  
**TITLE:** Advanced Self-Powered Systems of Integrated Sensor Technologies  
**AWARD:** $ 145,817

PI: Shekhar Bhansali  
**ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG**  
**Award Action Type:** Supplemental  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** North Carolina State University  
**TITLE:** Advanced Self-Powered Systems of Integrated Sensor Technologies  
**AWARD:** $ 34,108

PI: Eric Bishop-Von Wettberg  
**BIOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Increase  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** University of California Davis  
**TITLE:** Deducing the genomic footprint and functional impact of chickpea  
**AWARD:** $ 214,548

PI: Kevin Mershon Boswell  
**INST OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT**  
**Award Action Type:** Increase  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Industrial Economics Inc  
**TITLE:** Analysis of acoustic data from Deep Water Horizon  
**AWARD:** $ 11,878

PI: Lakhdar Boukerrou  
**INST OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT**  
**Award Action Type:** Supplemental  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** US Agency for International Development  
**TITLE:** West Africa Water Supply  
**AWARD:** $ 513,775

PI: Henry Briceno  
**SOUTHEAST ENV RESEARCH CTR**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Islamorada, Village of Islands  
**TITLE:** Water Quality Monitoring Program for the Village of Islamorada  
**AWARD:** $ 72,443

PI: Shu-Ching Chen  
**INTERNATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER**  
**Award Action Type:** Supplemental  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Florida Office of Insurance Regulation  
**TITLE:** FPHL Model Operation and Maintenance, and Model Upgrades  
**AWARD:** $ 3,811
PI: Erika K Coles  
**Center for Children and Fam**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
**Awarding Sponsor:** Nova Southeastern University  
**Title:** Behavior Assessment Team  
**Award:** $6,600

PI: Jose Miguel Cruz  
**Latin American and Carib Ctr**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
**Awarding Sponsor:** Open Society Foundations  
**Title:** Systematization of the Community-Based Police in El Salvador  
**Award:** $67,329

PI: Ronald Philip Fisher  
**Psychology**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
**Awarding Sponsor:** Federal Bureau of Investigation  
**Title:** Interviewing Information Sources Twice with the Cognitive Interview  
**Award:** $187,883

PI: James Fourqurean  
**Southeast Env Research Ctr**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
**Awarding Sponsor:** Islamorada, Village of Islands  
**Title:** Baseline Monitoring of Canals in the Village of Islamorada  
**Award:** $17,454

PI: Arindam Gan Chowdhury  
**International Hurricane Center**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
**Awarding Sponsor:** Florida Division of Emergency Management  
**Title:** FIU's Hurricane Loss Reduction for Housing in Florida  
**Award:** $282,389

PI: Orlando J Garcia  
**Music**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
**Awarding Sponsor:** Earle Brown Music Foundation  
**Title:** New Music Miami Brown Feldman Concert  
**Award:** $3,000

PI: Ismail Guvenc  
**Elec and Computer Eng**  
Award Action Type: Increase  
**Awarding Sponsor:** DOCOMO Innovations Inc  
**Title:** Compressive Sensing for Improving Accuracy of Fingerprint  
**Award:** $25,000

PI: Mohammed A Hadi  
**Civil and Environ Engineering**  
Award Action Type: Supplemental  
**Awarding Sponsor:** University of Florida  
**Title:** STRIDE Internal Steering Committee  
**Award:** $997

PI: Mohammed A Hadi  
**Civil and Environ Engineering**  
Award Action Type: Supplemental  
**Awarding Sponsor:** University of Florida  
**Title:** STRIDE Internal Steering Committee  
**Award:** $6,999
PI: Julio E Ibarra  
CIARA  
Award Action Type: Continuation  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Assoc of Univs for Rsrch in Astronomy  
TITLE: Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST)  
AWARD: $ 1,525,001

PI: Julio E Ibarra  
CIARA  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: National Science Foundation  
TITLE: Campus Cyber Infrastructure- CC*DNI  
AWARD: $ 200,787

PI: Maria Ilcheva  
METROPOLITAN CENTER  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Miami-Dade County Transit  
TITLE: Miami-Dade Transit Department: 2015 Employee Satisfaction Survey  
AWARD: $ 24,500

PI: Xia Jin  
CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Department of Transportation  
TITLE: Incorporating Transit Service Decisions into Express Lane Programs  
AWARD: $ 159,720

PI: Jeremy Kiszka  
BIOLOGY  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Fondation D'Entreprise Total  
TITLE: The behavioral ecology of green sea turtles in the French Antilles:  
AWARD: $ 138,660

PI: Chenzhong Li  
BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Northeastern University  
TITLE: NRT-IGE: Nanomedicine Academy  
AWARD: $ 15,000

PI: Debra Lundy  
SCH OF HOSP AND TOURISM MGMT  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs  
TITLE: 2015-16 FEST South Beach Wine & Food Festival  
AWARD: $ 78,041

PI: Bruce Mc Cord  
CHEMISTRY  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: QIAGEN  
TITLE: Internal Validation of QIAGEN's Investigator 24plex (6 dye) STR kit  
AWARD: $ 27,340

PI: April Ruth Merleaux  
HISTORY  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: National Endowment for the Humanities  
TITLE: Ecohumanities for Cities in Crisis  
AWARD: $ 162,242

For updates, corrections, suggestions, and/or general comments, please email Mercedes.rodriguez@fiu.edu
PI: Osama A Mohammed  
**ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG**  
Award Action Type: Increase  
AWARDING SPONSOR: University of Arkansas  
TITLE: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Integratable, Composable  
AWARD: $289,970

PI: Francisco Mora  
**LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIB CTR**  
Award Action Type: Increase  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Tinker Foundation Inc.  
TITLE: Tinker Field Research Grant  
AWARD: $15,000

PI: Norman D Munroe  
**OSAS ENGINEERING AND COMPUTING**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Children's Trust  
TITLE: FIU -ENLACE 15-16  
AWARD: $412,903

PI: Richard Olson  
**INTERNATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Division of Emergency Management  
TITLE: FIU’s Hurricane Loss Reduction for Housing in Florida  
AWARD: $284,671

PI: Timothy F Page  
**HEALTH POLICY AND MGMT**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Meharry Medical College  
TITLE: Development of an Online Certificate in Health Economics  
AWARD: $16,536

PI: Jordana Pomeroy  
**FROST ART MUSEUM**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Division of Cultural Affairs  
TITLE: General Support Program 2015-2016  
AWARD: $67,258

PI: Allan Rosenbaum  
**INST PUB MGMT & COMM SERVICE**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs  
TITLE: TDC XXII Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local  
AWARD: $14,400

PI: Nicole Ruggiano  
**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Gerontological Society of America  
TITLE: Expansion of Health Information Technology for Hispanic Dementia  
AWARD: $9,966

PI: Jay Sah  
**SOUTHEAST ENV RESEARCH CTR**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: South Florida Water Management District  
TITLE: Status of Vegetation Structure and Composition within the Habitat  
AWARD: $38,000
PI: Arif Islam Sarwat  
ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: National Science Foundation  
TITLE: CAREER: Cyber Physical Solution for High Penetration Renewables  
AWARD: $82,837

PI: Althea M Silvera  
LIBRARY OPERATIONS  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Center for Research Libraries  
TITLE: Guantanamo Naval Base Newspapers Digitization Project  
AWARD: $5,000

PI: Jacqueline Bueno Sousa  
COB DEANS OFFICE  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: University of West Florida  
TITLE: FSBDC 2016 - YR 3  
AWARD: $128,440

PI: Jacqueline Bueno Sousa  
COB DEANS OFFICE  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: University of West Florida  
TITLE: FSBDC 2016 - YR 3  
AWARD: $9,329

PI: Jacqueline Bueno Sousa  
COB DEANS OFFICE  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: University of West Florida  
TITLE: FSBDC 2016 - YR 3  
AWARD: $58,321

PI: Casey Steadman  
THE WOLFSONIAN  
Award Action Type: Supplemental  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation  
TITLE: Philodendron: From Pan-Latin Exotic to American Modern  
AWARD: $25,000

PI: John Stuart  
ARCHITECT AND THE ARTS DEANS OFF  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: City of Miami Beach  
TITLE: City of Miami Beach Junior Cultural Anchor Grant 2015-2016  
AWARD: $24,364

PI: Michael C Sukop  
SOUTHEAST ENV RESEARCH CTR  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Colorado State University  
TITLE: Urban Water Innovation Network (U-WIN): Transitioning  
AWARD: $71,181

PI: Berrin Tansel  
CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: U.S. Department of Transportation  
TITLE: Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program  
AWARD: $2,000

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PI: Berrin Tansel  
**CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: U.S. Department of Transportation  
TITLE: Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program  
AWARD: $ 2,000

PI: Joel Trexler  
**SOUTHEAST Env Research CTR**  
Award Action Type: Supplemental  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Springer  
TITLE: Oecologia Editor-in-Chief  
AWARD: $ 100,836

PI: Diana Valle-Riestra  
**COE Community Engagement**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: University of Central Florida  
TITLE: Project Panther LIFE 2015-2020 Florida Consortium on Inclusive  
AWARD: $ 96,078

PI: Feion Villodas  
**Center for Children and Fam**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Children's Trust  
TITLE: After-school support program for youth at-risk for behavior problems  
AWARD: $ 158,133

PI: Chunlei Wang  
**ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG**  
Award Action Type: Supplemental  
AWARDING SPONSOR: North Carolina State University  
TITLE: Advanced Self-Powered Systems of Integrated Sensor Technologies  
AWARD: $ 72,000

PI: Yi Xiao  
**BIOMOLECULAR SCIENCE INSTITUTE**  
Award Action Type: Increase  
AWARDING SPONSOR: National Institutes of Health  
TITLE: Aptamer-Based, Exonuclease-Amplified, Colorimetric, Onsite  
AWARD: $ 295,546

PI: Yi Xiao  
**BIOMOLECULAR SCIENCE INSTITUTE**  
Award Action Type: Increase  
AWARDING SPONSOR: National Institutes of Health  
TITLE: Aptamer-Based, Exonuclease-Amplified, Colorimetric, Onsite  
AWARD: $ 41,694

PI: Ping Zhu  
**INTERNATIONAL HURRICANE Center**  
Award Action Type: Increase  
AWARDING SPONSOR: University of Miami  
TITLE: CARTHE II - Consortium for Advanced Research on Transport  
AWARD: $ 69,338

PI: Ioannis Zisis  
**INTERNATIONAL HURRICANE Center**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Division of Emergency Management  
TITLE: FIU’s Hurricane Loss Reduction for Housing in Florida  
AWARD: $ 132,941
**Funding Opportunities**

The funding opportunities are in a separate excel file, which includes a filter for agency, date and opportunity number.

**Contact ORED Senior Leadership**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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