

# Translational Research Support at UA

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# Highlights

- ❖ **Translational Research at UA**
- ❖ **NSF ART award – Capacity Building, Training & Education, Project Development**
- ❖ **WaterTech & Sustainability Accelerator and Founder Catalyst WaterTech & Sustainability Pre-accelerator programs**
- ❖ **Research Partnerships and Sponsored Research Projects**
- ❖ **Technology Commercialization Support**
- ❖ **Various Programs**
- ❖ **NSF Engines**
- ❖ **Innovate Alabama**



# Translational Research at UA

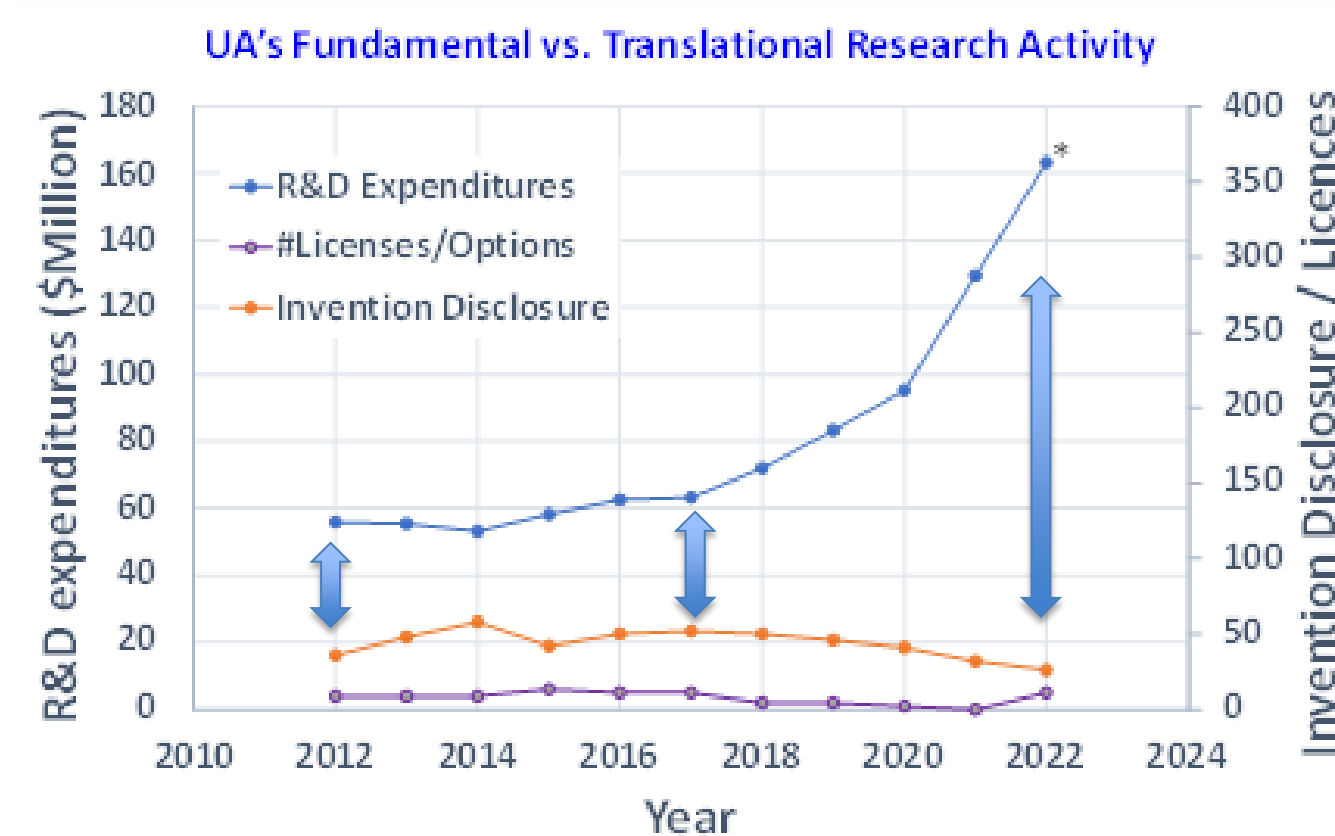
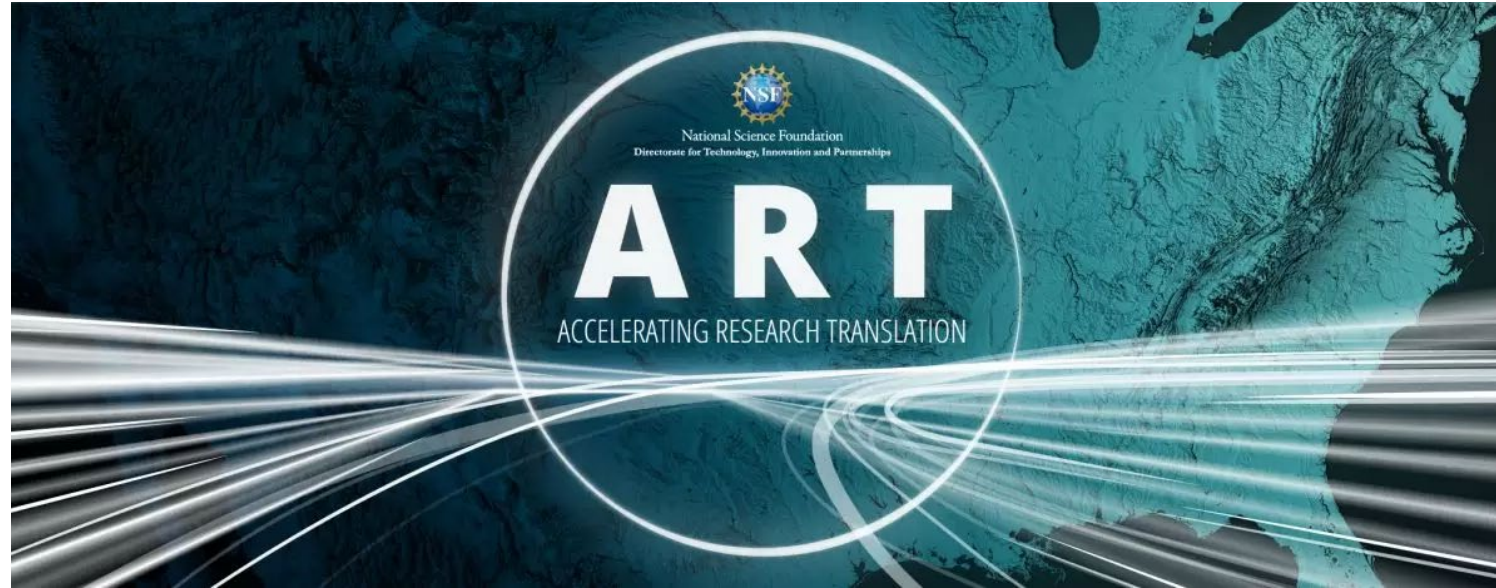


Figure 1. UA's fundamental research activity vs. translation to commercialization activities





## ❖ NSF Accelerating Research Translation (ART)

- \$6M for 4 years
- Capacity Building, Training & Education, Project Development
- Impacts to faculty – Capacity building, using two seed translational research project (STRPs) to validate the model, hiring postdocs and graduate students, support through the private-public partnerships (P3s)
- Impacts to graduate students and postdocs - understanding various career paths through training and education, internship opportunities, building connections with industry





## TCEDA, UA and Techstars Partner to Bring Accelerator and Pre-Accelerator Programs to Tuscaloosa

January 22, 2024 • 4 min read



### ❖ [WaterTech & Sustainability Accelerator](#) and [Founder Catalyst WaterTech & Sustainability Pre-accelerator](#)

- The opportunities that brings to UA faculty and community - Provide excellent training and mentorship to early-stage entrepreneurs, and provide collaborative opportunities for UA faculty to innovation & commercialization
- Bring high-potential startups to Tuscaloosa that will provide partnership and sponsored research opportunities
- Create opportunities for potential internship and jobs for UA students



# Research Partnerships & Sponsored Research Projects

- OEBE directs outreach to industry and builds university-industry partnerships
- Create translational research opportunities - identify opportunities for solving industrial problems and create sponsored research projects
- Help faculty to identify industry partners
- Help faculty with getting Letters of Support from industrial partners for grant applications
- Facilitate joint proposals and industry-led proposals
- Create opportunities for students
- OEBE's satellite office on the Gulf Coast connects UA with local industry



# Technology Commercialization Support

- **Translation research funding application support**
  - NSF [PFI](#), [I-Corps](#), [SBIR/STTR](#)
- **Training series for UA researchers**
  - Three Workshops to graduate students and postdocs: IP basics, IP Commercialization, Building a business model
  - Planning workshops to faculty/staff researchers
  - NSF I-Corps Site training (Building a business model through customer discovery)
- **Incubator support**
  - EDGE Labs (Wet labs for R&D, prototyping), and
  - The EDGE (Dry labs and co-working space)
- **Entrepreneurship & Nonprofit Clinic (E-Clinic)**
- **One-on-one meetings with faculty**



ACADEMIC INNOVATOR'S BLUEPRINT SERIES

Workshop 1  
Intellectual Property Foundations: Navigating the Basics for Academic Innovators  
Friday, March 1st  
11:00 - 12:00 pm  
118 Autherine Lucy Hall

Workshop 2  
From Lab to Market: Mastering the Art of Intellectual Property Commercialization  
Friday, March 22nd  
11:00 - 12:00 pm  
118 Autherine Lucy Hall

Workshop 3  
Crafting Winning Strategies: Business Model Generation for Academic Entrepreneurs  
Friday, March 29th  
11:00 - 12:00 pm  
118 Autherine Lucy Hall





# Various programs

- [Bama IP Commercialization Academy](#): Pairing your IP and innovation with motivated student entrepreneurs (supported by Alabama Power Foundation)
- [Faculty/Staff Innovation Pitch Competition](#): open to UA faculty and staff for all business ideas (supported by Alabama Power Foundation)
- [Industry Engagement Day](#): Opportunity for industry leaders, executives, elected and government officials, and business owners to meet UA researchers to explore potential research and economic development partnerships
- [UA I-Corps Site training – Crimson Startup](#)
- [Alabama Entrepreneurship Institute \(AEI\) programs](#): Aldag Business Plan Competition (April), River Pitch Competition (Nov.)





# NSF Engines

- **UA awarded Type-1 NSF Regional Innovation Engine – “Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia Network for Electric Vehicle Technologies” or MAGNET**
- **Preparing Type-2 proposal - \$160 million/10 years – to create a domestic supply chain for EVs in the Southeast US**
  - Use- inspired research, translation and talent development
  - Leverage AMP model (P3 and consortium)
  - Economic development/virtuous cycle



# Innovate Alabama

- **UA designated as an “Innovative University” and part of statewide network**
- **Create an ecosystem across Alabama to support creation and sustainability of knowledge-based economy**
- **UA awarded grant to support talent development for “jobs of the future”, especially in underrepresented areas of Alabama**
  - Align strategic research themes with industry workforce needs
  - Future funding opportunities available – limited submission



# Our Contacts



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