Cultivating Big Ideas, October 2012

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Technology Development Foundation

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University Relations Position Serves Park’s Needs

The Office of University Relations recently hired Chris Branam to work directly with the office of the Vice Provost for Research and Economic Development. Previously with the Arkansas Democrat Gazette, Branam will cover stories focused on research and economic development issues. Covering the affiliates in the Park will be part of his beat as well.

“It's an exciting time to join the University of Arkansas,” Branam said of his new position. “I look forward to communicating the innovative research that is going on at the Arkansas Research and Technology Park.”

Phillip Stafford, ARTP manager, said he appreciates the support from Dr. Rankin’s office to promote the ARTP and its affiliates.

New to the Park Family

APEI
Patrick Doyle
Lauren Kegley
Peter Kelleen
Daniel Martin
Florenda Tillotson

CardioWise
Jack Coates

ENRC
Kyle Cook

SFC Fluidics
Anthony P. Cruz

Space Photonics
Debbie Chalfant
Beckie Henson

TiFiber
Michael Rutherford

Inaugural Summit Held

Park affiliate, The Sustainability Consortium (TSC) held its Inaugural Member Summit meeting the week of October 8th at Arizona State University. The Member Summit allowed TSC’s 90-plus members and stakeholders to analyze its sustainability measurement and reporting work. It also allowed different groups within the organization to engage in critical dialogue on how to advance TSC’s mission.

TSC develops transparent methodologies, tools, and strategies to drive a new generation of products and supply networks that address environmental, social, and economic imperatives. For more information, please contact the organization’s website at www.sustainabilityconsortium.org.
Space Photonics to Hold Announcement

Park affiliate Space Photonics Inc. (SPI) has scheduled an important announcement at 9 a.m. on Nov. 1 in the AT&T Conference room in the GENESIS Technology Incubator, concerning the commercialization of its free space optical network technology.

SPI recently completed development of the novel communications system under a four-year Air Force Research Lab Phase II contract in the Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR). For over a decade SPI has provided innovative technologies and products to the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, NASA and others. For more information about SPI, visit its website: www.spacephotronics.com.

Ozark Integrated Circuits is Grant Team Member

Ozark Integrated Circuits (Ozark IC), a Park affiliate, recently announced that it is part of the UofA team selected for the National Science Foundation’s Partners for Innovation: Building Innovation Capacity Grant. The project will focus on the exploration and definition of an integrated circuit research platform based on silicon carbide (SiC) technology. The team is to develop gate driver and digital control circuitry for integration into advanced power electronic modules with the aim of achieving higher performing integrated power electronics in terms of size, weight, efficiency, and robustness. For more information, see the Ozark IC website: www.ozarkic.com.

TSC Member Makes Breakthrough in Packaging

A recent press release from TSC announced that its longtime member, BASF, has introduced a project that includes partnership with America’s pastime. On September 5th, BASF and the Seattle Mariners distributed the iconic baseball snack, peanuts, in a new prototype packaging developed with BASF’s advanced biopolymer technology. The first 10,000 fans at Safeco Field that day received a free package of peanuts in a 100 percent compostable snack bag.

UATDF Hosts Red Cross Training

In late September, seven employees in the Park received training from an American Red Cross representative. The group is certified to provide first aid and adult CPR and to operate an automated external defibrillator (AED).

Those attending were Alicia Jones and Robert Shaw from APEI; Katie Harrison and Amy Lea from VIC; and Tiffany Fordyce, Peg Hart, and Phil Stafford from UATDF.

Body Armor Partnership

NanoMech recently announced a partnership with KDH Defense Systems, Inc. NanoMech will add its advanced structured coating to KDH’s award-winning body armor. The bacteria-resistant coating is engineered for hard military armors to reduce premature damage to hard plates from handling and transportation in the supply chain.
Town and Gown Committee Commences

The City of Fayetteville announced in a recent press release that the Town and Gown Advisory Committee will hold its first meeting on Monday, October 15th, at 3:00 p.m. here at the ARTP in the AT&T Conference Room of the Genesis Technology Incubator. This is a 21-member committee, with representatives on the committee coming from UofA staff as appointed by Chancellor David Gearhart, City staff appointed by Mayor Lioneld Jordan, a member of the Fayetteville City Council appointed by the Mayor, and members of the community. During this first meeting, the Committee will identify some issues for possible review within the next six months and set New Business items for its next meeting’s agenda.

As with all City Board, Committee, and Commission meetings, the public is invited to attend.

Sodas & Soups

Jammin Java South offers a wide variety of products here in the Park. Owner Ross Bailey brought back soup in October just in time for the cold weather.

Peg’s Personal Pick: Thursday’s Baja Chicken. Spicy!

News from VIC Portfolio Companies

VIC welcomes employees to three of its companies: Jack Coats, Chief Executive Officer of CardioWise®; Anthony P. Cruz, Chief Executive Officer of SFC Fluidics®; and Dr. Michael Rutherford, Senior Scientist of TiFiber®.

Paul Mlakar, President of BiologicsMD, presented to a large group of investors, venture capitalists, industry leaders and scientists at the BioPharm 2012 conference held in Boston last month. He promoted the milestones achieved by the company.

UofA News

New Monthly Newsletter

In September, Dr. Jim Rankin, Vice Provost for Research & Economic Development, unveiled The Arkansas Catalyst. Each month will feature university researchers, new research funding awards and faculty receiving patents. It also will introduce staff in different office departments, including Research Support and Sponsored Programs, Research Compliance, the Technology Licensing Office and the Arkansas Research and Technology Park.

Business College Ranked

In September, the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the UofA was ranked among the top 30 public undergraduate business schools in the country, according to the U.S. News & World Report “Best Colleges 2013.”

College of Engineering Enjoys Record Numbers

Recruitment and retention efforts, along with the increasing enrollment of female and minority students, have led to the largest engineering enrollment in the history of the College of Engineering with 2,726 undergraduates currently enrolled. This is a 73 percent increase since 2007.
At a Glance

Clockwise from top right: Students and faculty from ASU and UALR campuses and members of the VIC TER Technical Advisory Committee tour the roof of the Enterprise Center to view its solar array.

Arkansas Advanced Energy Association (AAEA) Board members look in at clean rooms in the Enterprise Center while touring the ARTP.

The Park geese take a stroll.

UATDF Board of Directors and Staff

Greg Lee, Chairman
Sharon Gaber, Vice Chair
Christine Daugherty, Board Member
Ted Dickey, Board Member
Stan Green, Board Member
Eli Jones, Board Member
Don Marr, Board Member
Don Pederson, Board Member
Jim Rankin, Board Member
James W. Smith, Legal Counsel and Secretary
Phillip Stafford, President
David Whitmire, Director of Finance and Administration
Tiffany Fordyce, Office Manager
Peg Hart, Assistant to the President

CONSTRUCTION

Above: outdoor signage was added for both the Innovation Center and the Enterprise Center. Each sign lists the affiliate companies.

Cato Springs Road improvements continue with main effort now on storm sewer system installation and railroad crossings renovation.

Contact Us

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www.uark.edu/ua/artp/