

MAXIMIZING THE VALUE OF FEDERAL RESEARCH AT ERIs

Partnerships for Emerging Research Institutions

September 13, 2007

The National Academies

Keck Building

Room 100

500 Fifth St. NW, Washington, DC

MAXIMIZING THE VALUE OF FEDERAL RESEARCH AT ERIs

“Innovation will be the single most important factor in determining America’s success through the 21st century.”

Source: National Innovation Initiative Summit and Report (Dec. 2004)

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AMERICA'S TASK

“In the past, we have optimized our organizations for efficiency and quality. Over the next quarter century, we must optimize our entire society for innovation.”

Source: National Innovation Initiative Summit and Report (Dec. 2004)

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MAXIMIZING THE VALUE OF FEDERAL RESEARCH AT ERIs

- We must optimize our entire society for innovation....
 - Government
 - § Federal Laboratories
 - Universities
 - Public School System (K-12)
 - Small Businesses (SBIR)
 - Private Industry

MAXIMIZING THE VALUE OF FEDERAL RESEARCH AT ERIs

- We must optimize our entire society for innovation....
 - Why?
 - § Inherent link to Global Competitiveness
 - How?
 - § Focus on Science & Technology
 - § Universities & School System
 - § Increase Research Investment
 - § Research
 - § Commercialization
 - § Develop Innovation Infrastructure

Source: The America Competes Act S. 761 (April 2007)

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n Historical Perspective

1980

- n The Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act
First of many laws to make technology transfer a priority for the
federal government

- n The Bayh-Dole Act
Gave universities and small businesses the right to own Intellectual Property
developed with federal funds

1982

- n The Small Business Innovation Development Act
Established the SBIR Program by requiring agencies to provide funds to small
businesses

Source: Federal Technology Transfer Legislation and Policy (*The Green Book*)

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1987 Executive Order 12591

- By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America...in order to ensure that Federal agencies and laboratories assist universities and the private sector in broadening our technology base by moving new knowledge from the research laboratory into the development of new products and processes, it is hereby ordered as follows...

1992

- The Small Business Research and Development Enhancement Act Reauthorized the SBIR Program and established the STTR program which requires small businesses to work with universities

Source: Federal Technology Transfer Legislation and Policy(*The Green Book*)

1992

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Other Relevant Legislation

15 USC 3710

- (1) There is hereby established the Federal Laboratory Consortium of Technology Transfer which in cooperation with Federal laboratories and the private sector, shall...

(I) when requested, assist colleges or universities...establish programs to stimulate research and to encourage technology transfer in such areas as technology program development...

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- The Role of the Federal Government in Technology Transfer
 - Based on legislative history, tech transfer is a priority for the federal government
 - Encourage use of Federal Inventions by transferring title (Bayh-Dole)
 - Finance University Research
 - \$42 Billion in Federal Research at Non-profit institutions
 - \$ 4 Billion @ 444 Limited Resource Institutions (<\$50 million Annual Sponsored Research)

Source: 2005 AUTM Survey & UCF market study

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- So what's the problem?
 - The Bayh-Dole Act has had low-to-no impact on small research institutions
 - Agencies continue to “finance” research
 - NO commitment to “invest” in university research
 - § Support commercialization of research
 - § Example
 - § SBIR Program has been extremely successful because its primary focus is on commercialization
 - § Government has not made the connection yet for university research

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- The Solution?
 - Support for Innovation
 - Focus on programs and products that support the commercialization of federal research
 - Adequately address the government's question
§ “haven’t we done enough?”
 - § Financing Research is not enough
 - § Exclusive Right to Federal Inventions is not enough
 - Commercialization support is essential and the only way to maximize the value of federal research!

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- VTTO is an Electronic Tool
 - Provides affordable **services** and support to universities that do not have access to technology transfer services.
 - Cost effective alternative to establishing an Office of Technology Transfer
 - Provides intellectual property and technology transfer assistance a virtual community
 - Promotes acceleration of commercialization by saving time, and eliminating duplication of efforts

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VTTO Project

- Increase Patent and License Activity at Limited Resource Institutions
- VTTO Pilot Program
 - Principal Investigators with Federal Grants

VTTO Funding

- National Science Foundation
 - Partnership for Innovation Grant (2004-07)
 - Small Business Innovation Research Grant (SBIR) (2007)
- Leon County Technology Commercialization Grant (2006-07)

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