

RESEARCH MATTERS

CWRU's Social and Behavioral Research IRB Seeking AAHRPP Accreditation

Over the past year, Case Western Reserve's Institutional Review Board (IRB), which evaluates social and behavioral human subject research, has been participating in a rigorous evaluation process by the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP). In November, independent evaluators visited our campus and met with members and staff of the IRB as well as faculty and others who use the IRB to review their studies.

Evaluators were impressed with CWRU's human research protection program, and the expertise and commitment of those who were interviewed. Preliminary findings indicated that accreditation will be awarded pending minor clarifications. A final determination of accreditation by AAHRPP is expected to occur in March 2016.

CWRU'S INAUGURAL INNOVATION SUMMIT A BLOCKBUSTER SUCCESS

On October 26th, CWRU opened its doors to more than 500 attendees who took part in the University's inaugural innovation summit. The three-day event titled, *Innovation Summit 2015: Models of Innovation*, delivered a unique view of full-spectrum innovation. Hot-topic themes such as "internet of things" and biomimicry were balanced by exposure to innovation in neighborhood inclusion, patient empowerment, and education. Appropriately, the audience was comprised of not only "innovation professionals" from industry and academia, but also historians, teachers and public officials, representing local communities and the nation.

Renowned speakers told of how innovation can transform society. One highlight from the more than

80 participating speakers was keynoter Nolan Bushnell, who described the growth of video gaming through his founding of Atari, and the changes that neighborhoods and professions will undergo with the advent of autonomous vehicles. The Summit offerings extended well beyond presentations to include numerous hands-on workshops and panel sessions that enabled attendees to work together toward implementing innovative practices. This approach was particularly evident during the concluding "Maker School Session" that brought more than twenty universities to campus to collaborate on guiding the emerging trend of on-campus maker programs.

Highlighting the on-campus maker movement, Summit attendees joined campus and regional luminaries to celebrate the opening of the Sears Think[box] at *Thinkapalooza*. This grand, celebratory event offered the public, for the first time, a view of the largest, on-campus innovation center in the country. The view could not have been better, as the energized crowd was treated to demonstrations that included electrifying musical performances, illuminated art displays, and culinary treats from Cleveland's own Jonathon Sawyer.

Innovation Summit 2015 was a great source of pride for the campus (and particularly, its more than 100 faculty, staff and student volunteers), and served as an important showcase for CWRU's leadership in innovation.



Sherwin-Williams gives \$1 million for CWRU's Institute for Advanced Materials

The Sherwin-Williams Co. recently announced plans to commit \$1 million toward materials research through the Institute for Advanced Materials (IAM) at Case Western Reserve University.

With the commitment, the Cleveland-based producer of paints and coatings combines nearly 150 years as an international leader in materials and coatings with Case Western Reserve's extensive research in advanced materials and polymers. The funding will support collaborative projects with Case Western Reserve faculty and graduate students aimed at creating innovative designs in coating technologies.

Founded in 2010, IAM aims to enhance and energize Ohio's industrial base and manufacturing capability by leveraging a broad range of materials as a foundation for innovations in multiple technology sectors. The institute provides an interdisciplinary research approach at Case Western Reserve, serving as an engine to advance new materials research and enhance the region's economic viability.

The two institutions, whose roots each date to the 1800s, have partnered on various endeavors since Sherwin-Williams opened its first chemistry research lab 75 years ago on what is now the Case Western Reserve campus. The global coatings company previously has invested in research through IAM, has routinely sponsored university events and has participated in executive education programs at CWRU.



Electrocardiographic Technology Developed at CWRU to Become Part of Global Product Line

In June of 2015, Medtronic, a global leader in the development of medical technology, announced that it would acquire Cardiolnsight Technologies Inc., a privately-held, Cleveland-based medical device company known for its innovative approaches to mapping electrical disorders of the heart.

The cardiac mapping technology utilized by Cardiolnsight initially was researched and developed in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Case Western Reserve University in the laboratory of Professor Yoram Rudy, now at Washington University in St. Louis.

The technology was licensed to Cardiolnsight through the university's technology management office in June of 2006 and subsequently developed into the ECVUE system, the first mapping system to non-invasively generate images of the heart's electrical activity. Using a disposable, multi-sensor vest and sophisticated software, the ECVUE system reconstructs and displays 3-D anatomical maps and virtual electrograms of the heart.

Cardiolnsight Technologies Inc. was the result of close collaboration among several Cleveland institutions and co-founders Charu Ramanathan and Ping Jia, who both earned doctorates in biomedical engineering at Case Western Reserve University. Michael Haag, executive director of technology management at Case Western Reserve's Technology Transfer Office (TTO) recalls the technology's local roots, "TTO partnered with local investment groups JumpStart and Draper Triangle Ventures, along with our own Case Technology Ventures, to launch the initial company. All three of those funds were supported with money from the State of Ohio."

Spotlight on Core Facilities

Core facilities are the nexus of modern team science. By virtue of the work they do, Core Facility Directors are able to advance the science of their users through the services they provide and by cultivating collaborations between scientists from different departments, centers, and schools.

By promoting a thriving Core Facility ecosystem, Case Western Reserve is keeping itself at the forefront of scientific research excellence. In the School of Medicine, a collaboration between the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center, The Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences, and the Office of Translation and Innovation, has brought online the new Small Molecule Drug Discovery Core Facility. This core facility with its 50,000 molecule ChemBridge library and High Throughput Screening automation will allow CWRU and outside collaborators the ability to identify and study new potential therapeutic agents and targets in all manner of disease states. Also, the departments of Genetics and Genome Sciences, Neurosciences, and Pharmacology have come together to combine the strengths of their Light Microscope imaging facilities into a single facility boasting a best in breed Super Resolution confocal microscope.

The Office of Research and Technology Management, in collaboration with the multiple schools, centers, and departments, has spent the last year developing a comprehensive University-wide Core Facility Portal (<http://www.case.edu/research/core-facilities/>) to aid researchers inside and outside CWRU to discover the wealth of cutting edge technology and expertise available in Cores operated by the Schools of Arts and Sciences, Engineering, Medicine, and Nursing.



Research ShowCASE + Intersections Scheduled for Friday, April 15, 2016

Mark your calendars and save the date to join us at Case Western Reserve University's annual Research ShowCASE + Intersections. Plan to discover hundreds of new research projects, learn about all the studies being conducted, and talk to the faculty, staff and students doing this exciting work.

The day will be filled with opportunities to explore the interactive booths and exhibits, to participate in one of the many competitions available for students showcasing their work, and to celebrate research!

Abstracts are now being accepted at showCASE.case.edu. This event is free and open to the public.

CWRU Technology Transfer Office Wins Licensing Executives Society's Prestigious 2015 "Deals of Distinction" Award

Joining the ranks of Yale University (2011), the University of Pennsylvania (2010), and the University of California, Berkeley (2008), Case Western Reserve University's Technology Transfer Office is one of a handful of academic technology transfer offices to be awarded the Licensing Executives Society's annual Deals of Distinction Award.

The award acknowledges significant advances in the field of technology commercialization. The CWRU Technology Transfer Office was commended for enabling small businesses to commensurately expand their licensed rights as their capabilities and revenues grow.

The deal recognized by the Licensing Executives Society was the result of collaborative efforts between Mike Allan, CWRU Senior Licensing Manager, and AeroClay LLC, for a multi-use

clay-based aerogel that has substantial positive implications for the environment. The technology produces a spongy, feather-light but sturdy, heat- and flame-resistant material for applications as an eco-friendly absorbent, insulator, or packing material. The technology was invented and developed by Dr. David Schiraldi, Professor and Chair of the CWRU Department of Macromolecular Science and Engineering. The award was presented to Allan in a ceremony at the Licensing Executives Society's annual meeting in New York on October 27, 2015.

"In a complex and constantly evolving field, the CWRU Technology Transfer Office goes above and beyond to make innovative licenses like this that benefit companies," said Michael Haag, CWRU Executive Director of Technology Management. "It is quite an honor to have our efforts and successes recognized for what should be a win-win for both CWRU and AeroClay," added Allan.

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The Office of Research Administration provides two weekly e-newsletters, one details funding opportunities and the other provides news and updates regarding research. Join the lists at research.case.edu/spiderweb/oraSubscriptions.cfm.

To speak with someone to obtain information, offer input, or discuss problems, questions, or concerns about participation in a research study, please contact the local Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Research Compliance Officer listed above.

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