





UCLA TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

INNOVATION MAGAZINE

WINTER 2023 | VOLUME 12

TDG.UCLA.EDU

Editor:

Marivi Valcourt

Designer:

Jennifer Cogan

Front Cover

Royce Hall
Photo: Alamy

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A message from

AMIR NAIBERG

Dear Readers,

This has been a challenging year for UCLA TDG. Market forces of inflation, high-interest rates, and economic instability have impacted business. Overall, transactions in licensing are down, our startup creation has remained flat while Industry-sponsored research activity has maintained its leading position.

Despite these factors, our pipeline of licensees is strong and well-positioned to make a difference on humanity. Impact Bios CAR-T therapeutic received fast track from the FDA based on innovation from Dr. Yvonne Chen's Lab and is in the clinic for cancer therapy and SLE. UCLA's Institute of Carbon Management startup Equatic made Time magazine's Best Inventions of 2023 list. TORL BioTherapeutics, announced encouraging initial results of a novel Claudin 6 clinical trial, based on research by Dr. Dennis Slamon.

SpineX Inc. based on research done by Dr. Parag Gad, announced close to full for its clinical trial of its proprietary SCONE™ device. SCONE is an innovative device that treats urinary incontinence allowing people living with neurogenic bladder due to spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, or stroke to live life on their own terms.

UCLA TDG held events throughout the year. We successfully produced the 11th Annual MedTech and 5th LABEST conferences with record attendance at both events. 2023 marked the first time we held exclusive webinars for investors highlighting the activity of UCLA's Innovation Fund with the University of Michigan and Yale. In addition, we collaborated with Aioi in a sustainability pitch event.

Recently, we assumed responsibility for UCLA Ventures. UCLA Ventures is using a unique "cashless" pledge mechanism, it helped foster UCLA's entrepreneurial ecosystem through programming, volunteerism, and financial distributions to key initiatives on campus. More to come about this program in 2024.

Make sure you join our newsletter to stay up to date on the latest news and events.

Sincerely,

Amir Naiberg

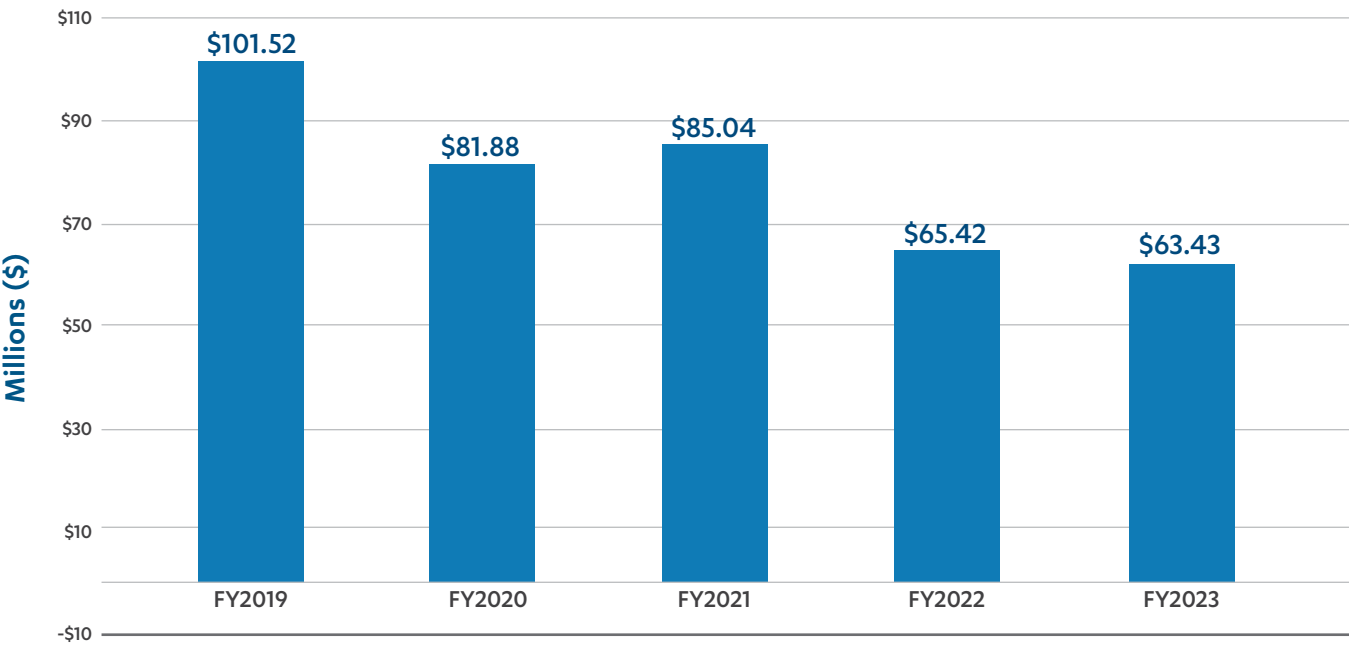
Associate Vice Chancellor, CEO & President
UCLA Technology Development Group

FY 2023 UCLA TDG BY THE NUMBERS

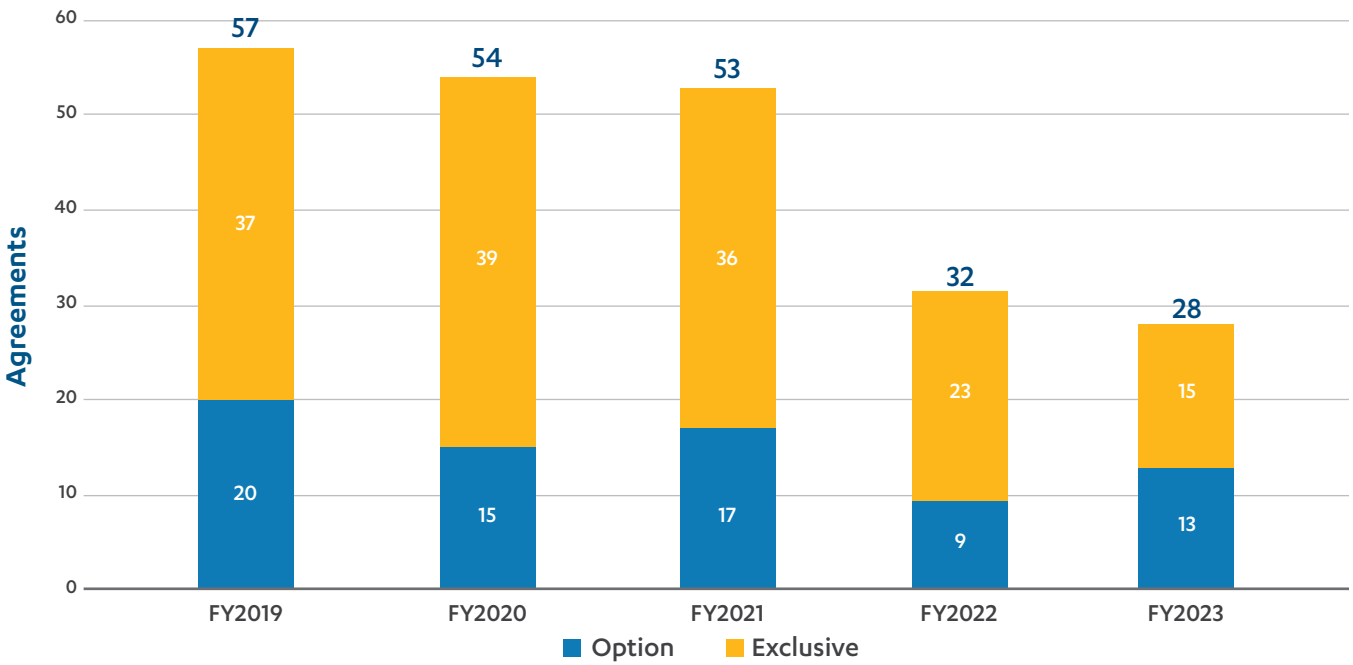
All data provided by UCLA TDG

LICENSING METRICS

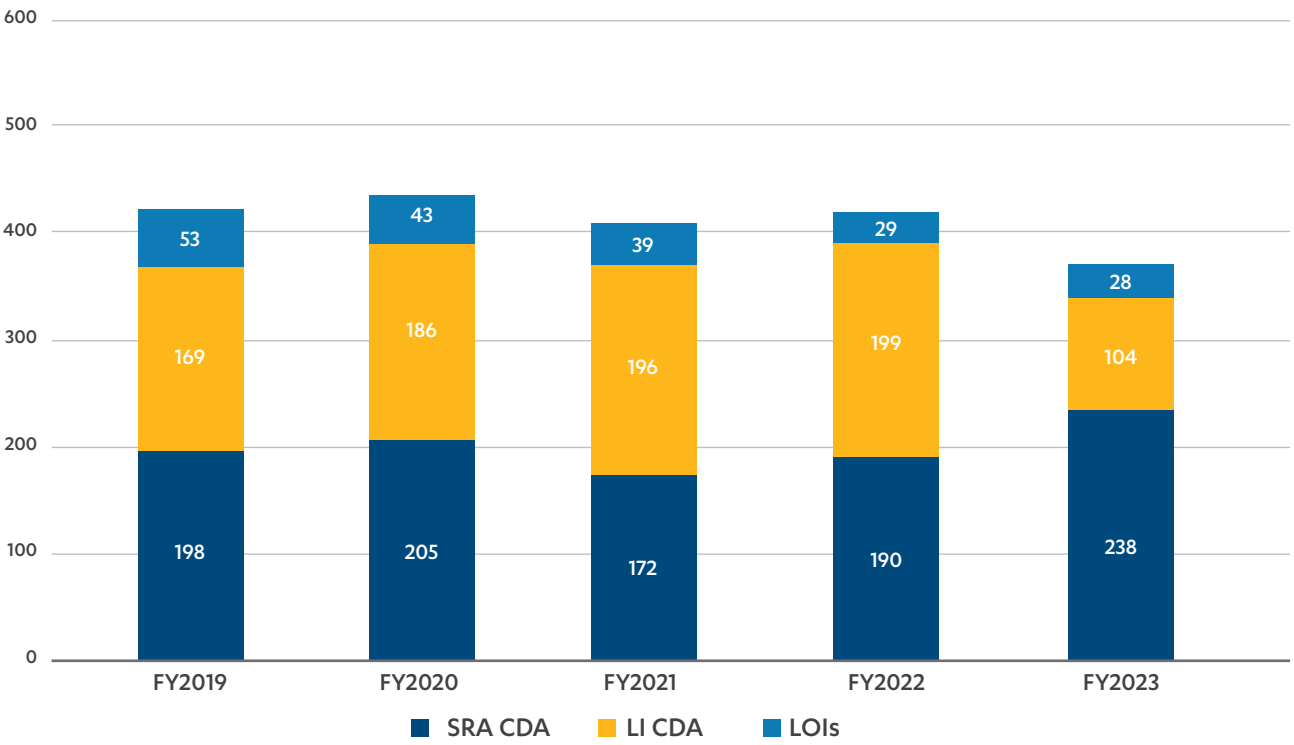
TDG Gross Licensing Income (with Xtandi)



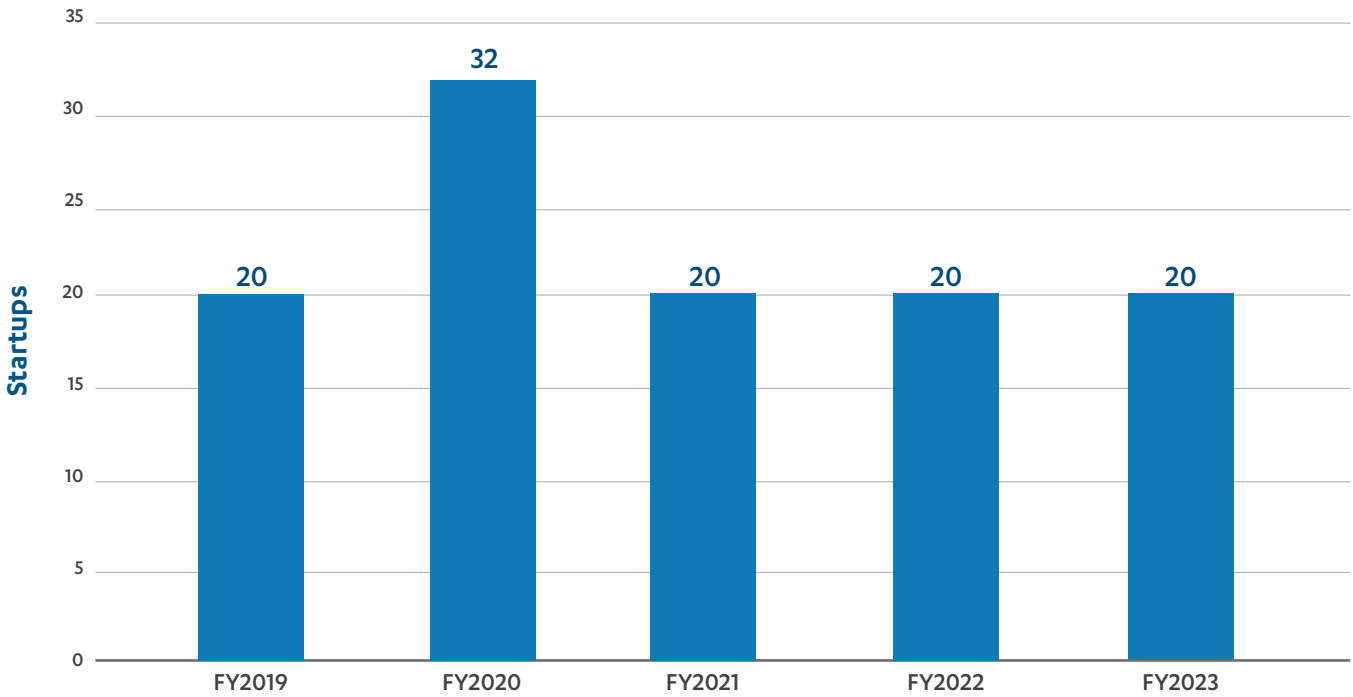
Exclusive Licenses and Options



CDA & Letters of Intent

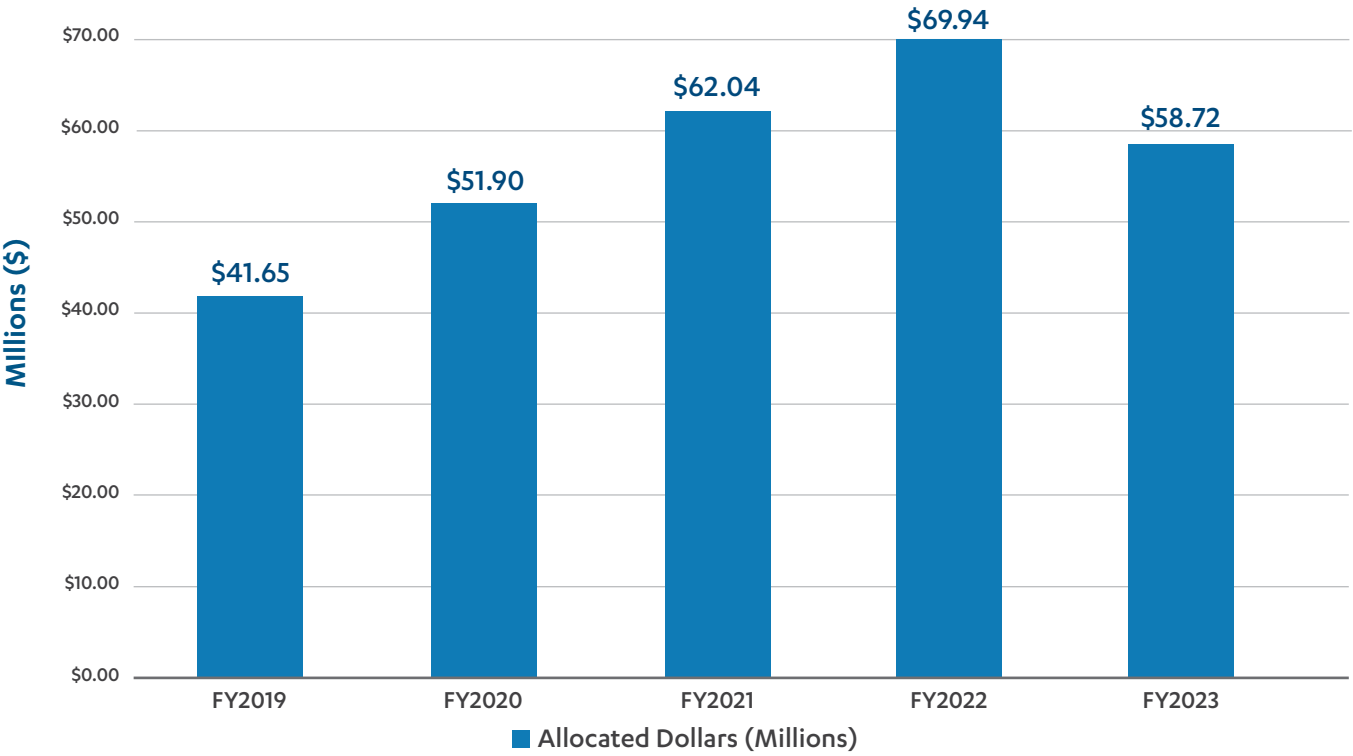


UCLA Startups per Fiscal Year

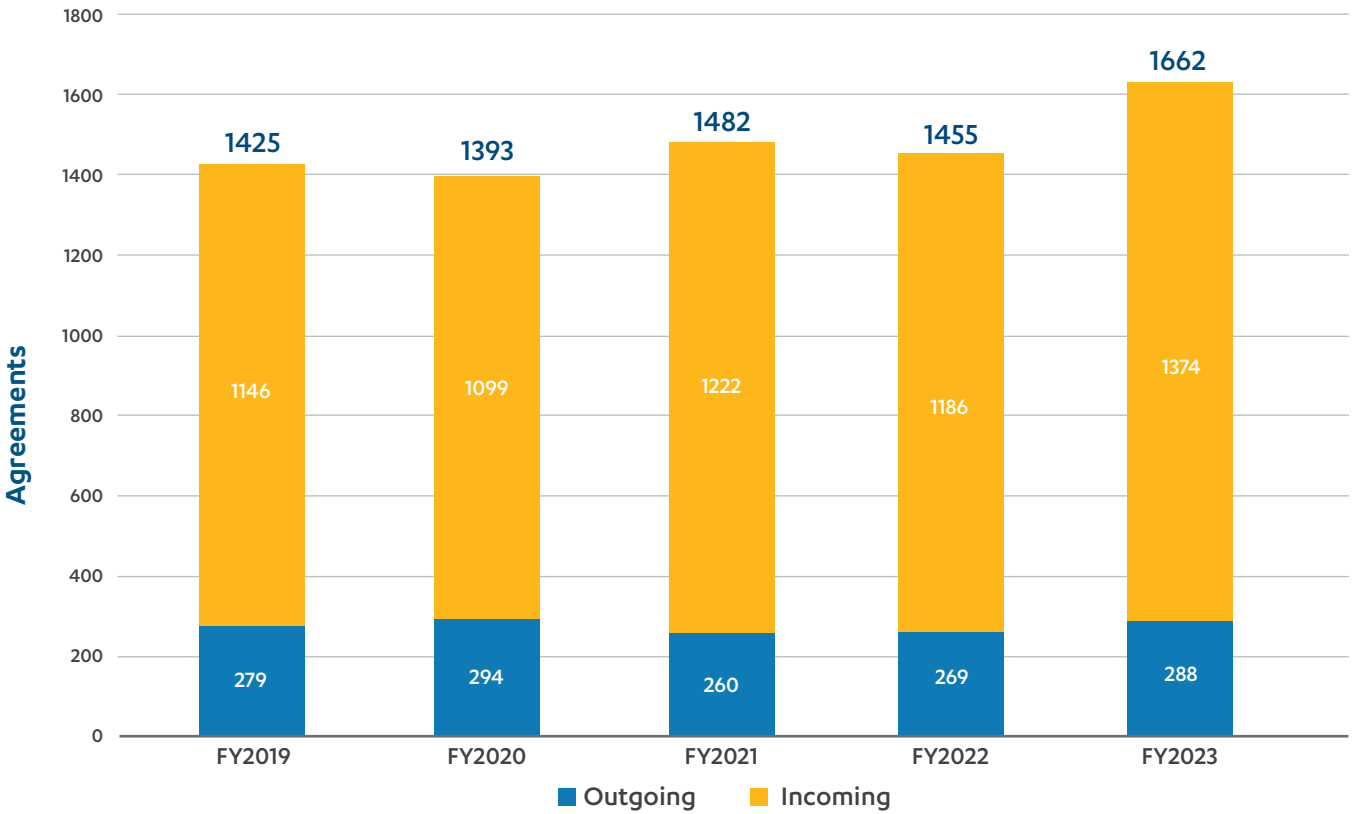


INDUSTRY SPONSORED RESEARCH METRICS

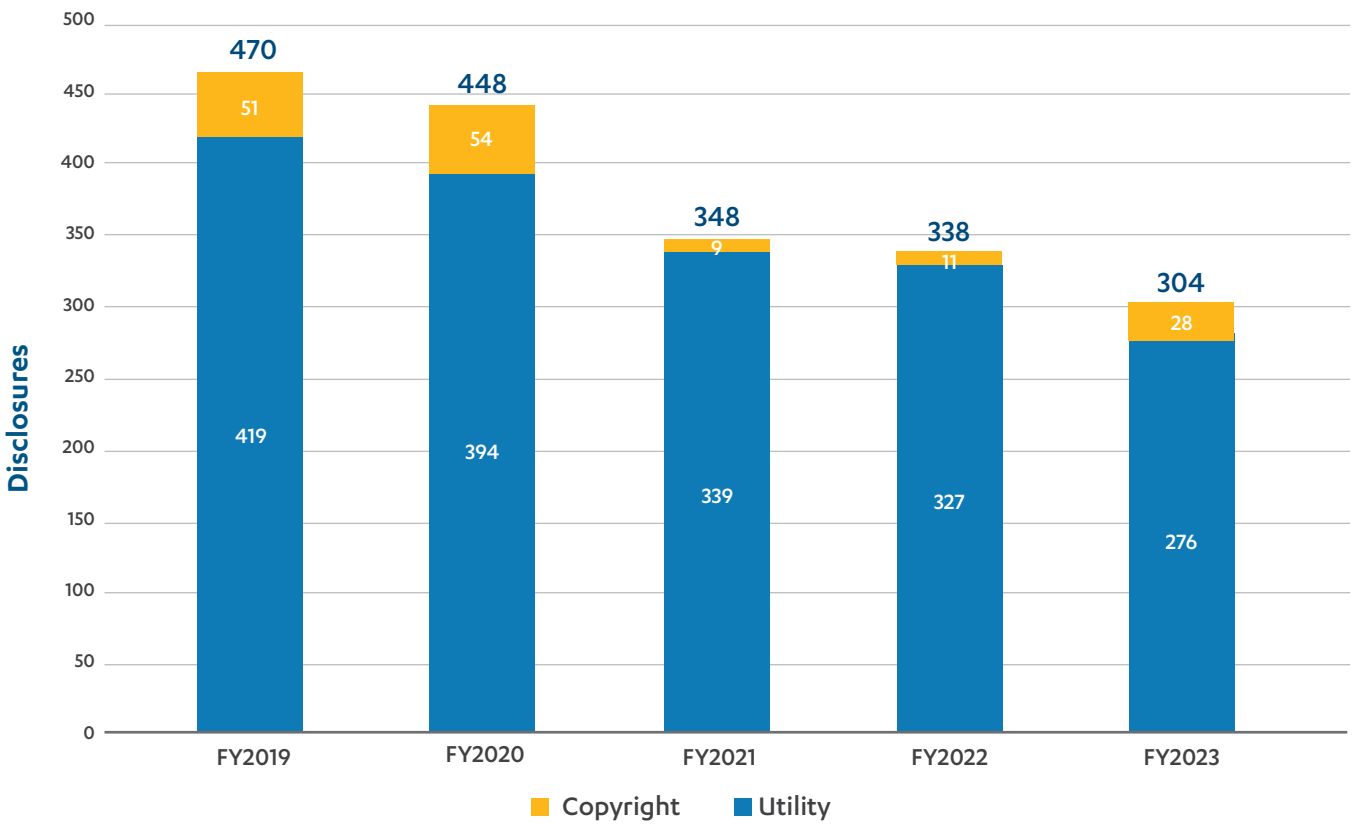
ISR Award Totals



Material Transfer Research Agreements

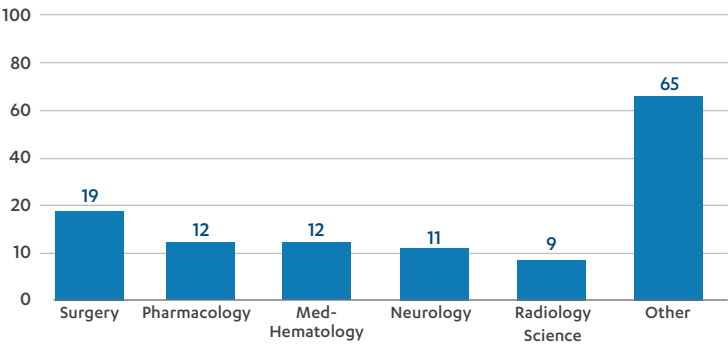


Invention Disclosures



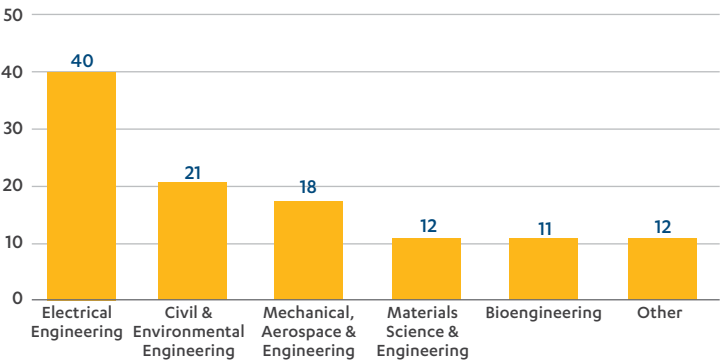
Top Invention Disclosures by school

David Geffen School of Medicine (DGSOM)



David Geffen School of Medicine	128
Surgery	19
Pharmacology	12
Med-Hematology	12
Neurology	11
Radiology Science	9
Other	65

Samueli School of Engineering (SEAS)



Samueli School of Engineering	114
Electrical Engineering	40
Civil & Environmental Engineering	21
Mechanical, Aerospace & Engineering	18
Materials Science & Engineering	12
Bioengineering	11
Other	12

Equatic named one of Time Magazine's Top Inventions of 2023

TIME MAGAZINE HAS NAMED the carbon-removal Equatic process developed at UCLA's Institute for Carbon Management (ICM) one of the best inventions of 2023 in the sustainability category.

Formerly known as Project SeaChange, the Equatic technology was created by a team of researchers at the UCLA Samueli School of Engineering. The process accelerates and expands the ocean's natural ability to absorb carbon dioxide (CO₂) to remove atmospheric CO₂, storing it in the forms of solid minerals and aqueous species for more than 10,000 years, while producing carbon-negative hydrogen — a clean fuel for transport and industrial applications.

In less than two years, the technique was scaled up from a bench-scale prototype into two pilot systems this spring in Los Angeles and Singapore, respectively. The startup Equatic was launched to commercialize the technology. One hundred percent of the carbon dioxide removed from these two pilots has been pre-sold to companies such as financial services company Stripe. In May, Equatic announced a pre-purchase option agreement to remove 62,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide and deliver 2,100 metric tons of carbon-negative hydrogen to The Boeing Company. Equatic expects to reach 100,000 metric tons of carbon removal per year by 2026 and millions of metric tons of carbon removal for less than \$100 per metric ton by 2028.

"We are thrilled that Time has recognized the potential of our low-cost carbon removal and green hydrogen production technology as we work toward net zero by 2050," said Equatic founder and ICM director Gaurav Sant, who is UCLA Samueli's Pritzker Professor of Sustainability and holds faculty appointments at the departments of civil and environmental engineering and materials science and engineering. "The need for scalable and sustainable solutions to reduce and remove atmospheric carbon dioxide is more urgent than ever, and we are proud to lead the charge in developing innovative solutions."

Civil and environmental engineering professor David Jassby, who is an associate director of ICM, is also a co-founder of Equatic and a co-inventor of the carbon-removal process.

In April, ICM unveiled its first Equatic pilot system at the Port of Los Angeles, drawing major media coverage by Forbes, Associated Press, Bloomberg, Los Angeles Times, CNN, among many others.



Photograph by Raoul Gatchalian—Star Max/IPx/AP

METHODOLOGY

- Seawater is passed between electrically charged electrodes, inducing a series of chemical reactions (electrolysis) that combine dissolved carbon dioxide in the water and CO₂ in the air with existing calcium and magnesium (ions) in seawater to trap CO₂ in the form of solid and dissolved calcium and magnesium-based materials, respectively.
- Carbon dioxide trapped in solid minerals and aqueous species is stable and durable for more than 10,000 years. Calcium carbonate, which makes up seashells, and magnesium carbonate species are naturally occurring and abundant in the oceans.
- The process chemically breaks down water into its hydrogen and oxygen constituents — producing green hydrogen gas as a co-product. The hydrogen can be used to power the process itself, or be used as a low-carbon energy source to power industrial processes and for transport and mobility applications.

EQUATIC continued

- Equatic's process allows on-site measurement of carbon dioxide removal before seawater is released back into the ocean ensuring that 4.6 kilograms (about 10 lbs.) of CO₂ is removed per cubic meter (approximately 264 gallons) of seawater processed.

"Ocean water already contains 150 times more carbon dioxide than the air, and Equatic's rinse-and-repeat flow-electrolysis process allows the oceans to serve as an enormous reservoir of CO₂," said Dante Simonetti, an associate professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering at UCLA Samueli and ICM's associate director for technology translation. "This allows the approach to scale at globally relevant rates faster and cheaper than traditional direct air capture and related methods."

Time's annual list highlights game-changing innovations in multiple categories, including artificial intelligence, green energy and sustainability. Nominees are evaluated on a variety of criteria including originality, efficacy, ambition and impact. In 2020, a bedside scanner invented by computer science distinguished professor Majid Sarrafzadeh of UCLA Samueli and his team was named one of the magazine's top inventions.

The Equatic technology previously won first place in the 2021 Liveability Challenge global competition backed by Singapore-based nonprofit Temasek Foundation with 450 applicants from more than 60 countries. The research project has been funded by, among others, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, the Grantham Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, the Nicholas Endowment, Singapore's Public Utilities Board, the Temasek Foundation and the U.S. Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E).

"We are thrilled that Time has recognized the potential of our low-cost carbon removal and green hydrogen production technology as we work toward net zero by 2050," said Equatic founder and ICM director Gaurav Sant, who is UCLA Samueli's Pritzker Professor of Sustainability. "The need for scalable and sustainable solutions to reduce and remove atmospheric carbon dioxide is more urgent than ever, and we are proud to lead the charge in developing innovative solutions."

Founded in 2018, the Institute for Carbon Management takes a multidisciplinary approach to translate carbon dioxide sequestration and removal technologies rapidly from a university laboratory setting to pre-commercial or commercial-scale prototypes. This allows accelerated transformation of science-based technologies into scalable engineering solutions designed to make a real-world impact and bolster the global shift to a carbon-free economy. In April 2021, the institute's CarbonBuilt project helped UCLA become the first university-led team to win an XPRIZE — \$7.5 million grand prize — turning carbon dioxide into concrete.

Reprinted courtesy of [UCLA Samueli Newsroom](#)

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY
MAY 23, 2024
UCLA MEYER AND RENEE LUSKIN CONFERENCE CENTER

LA BIOSCIENCE ECOSYSTEM SUMMIT TWENTY24™

UCLA

Autobahn Labs Announces Key Licensing Milestones in Alliances with Early University Partners



AUTOBAHN LABS, an early-stage drug discovery incubator, announced today that it had executed exclusive license agreements to foundational technologies in its collaborations with the Los Angeles and San Francisco campuses of the University of California. The objective of Autobahn’s collaborations with its academic partners is to identify academic research programs targeting important unmet medical needs and to advance their commercialization in companies it launches.

Autobahn Labs’ first two university partners were UCLA and UCSF, followed by UCSD, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Boston Children’s Hospital, the University of Pennsylvania, and most recently the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. A feature of Autobahn Labs’ investment model is pre-negotiated institutional agreements with startups it forms to commercialize university technologies. This enables it to rapidly trigger exclusive licenses to key institutional IP as the foundational basis of virtual startups it launches to accelerate academic research towards the clinic. The two exclusive licenses that Autobahn announced today buttress the startups from Autobahn’s first two partner institutions and represent an important milestone for these translational programs on their path towards preclinical candidate nomination.

“I’m thrilled to see our early partnerships bearing fruit,” said Thomas Novak, Chief Scientific Officer of Autobahn Labs. “Each of these startups – in which we have already invested considerable effort and funding – is now the beneficiary of an exclusive license to key university background IP. This adds a proprietary edge to the cutting-edge research on which these companies are based,” he added.

Regarding its exclusive license grant relating to a potential best-in-class antifibrinolytic drug to reduce blood loss during lengthy surgeries, Mark A. Wisniewski, Senior Director, Biopharmaceuticals in the UCLA Technology Development Group said, “Autobahn Labs has been a valued partner since the beginning of this collaboration. This important therapeutic program was discovered through their dedicated endeavors to engage and build faculty relationships.”

Foundational IP exclusively licensed from UCSF, is focused on molecules selected to activate a receptor involved in mucosal healing in patients who suffer from inflammatory bowel disease. “Significant unmet need remains for effective treatments for IBD,” said Peter Kotsonis, Interim Vice Chancellor of Business Development, Innovation and Partnerships at UCSF. “We’re very pleased to see this innovative research form the basis for a startup built upon foundational IP licensed from the university”, he added.

Backed by Samsara BioCapital, Evotec SE, and KCK Ltd, Autobahn Labs invests earlier than traditional venture financing models, providing intellectual, financial and human

“I’m thrilled to see our early partnerships bearing fruit,” said Thomas Novak, Chief Scientific Officer of Autobahn Labs. “Each of these startups – in which we have already invested considerable effort and funding – is now the beneficiary of an exclusive license to key university background IP. This adds a proprietary edge to the cutting-edge research on which these companies are based,” he added.

Autobahn continued

capital to efficiently and effectively advance new scientific discoveries from novel concept to preclinical drug candidate selection. Autobahn’s partner institutions benefit from its strategic and operational support, as well as the industry-leading drug discovery and development capabilities of Evotec. Autobahn Labs creates jointly owned companies with its academic partners and invests up to \$5M per project, provides operational and scientific expertise to guide drug development, and applies Evotec’s powerful integrated multimodality discovery platform, designed to accelerate the translation of scientific ideas into novel therapeutics.

Autobahn Labs has collaborations with the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), University of California San Francisco (UCSF), University of California San Diego (UCSD), Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, the University of Pennsylvania, Boston Children’s Hospital and the Salk Institute for Biological Studies.

Reprinted courtesy of [Autobahn Labs](#)



Tom Novak

Courtesy of Autobahn

ON SALE NOW

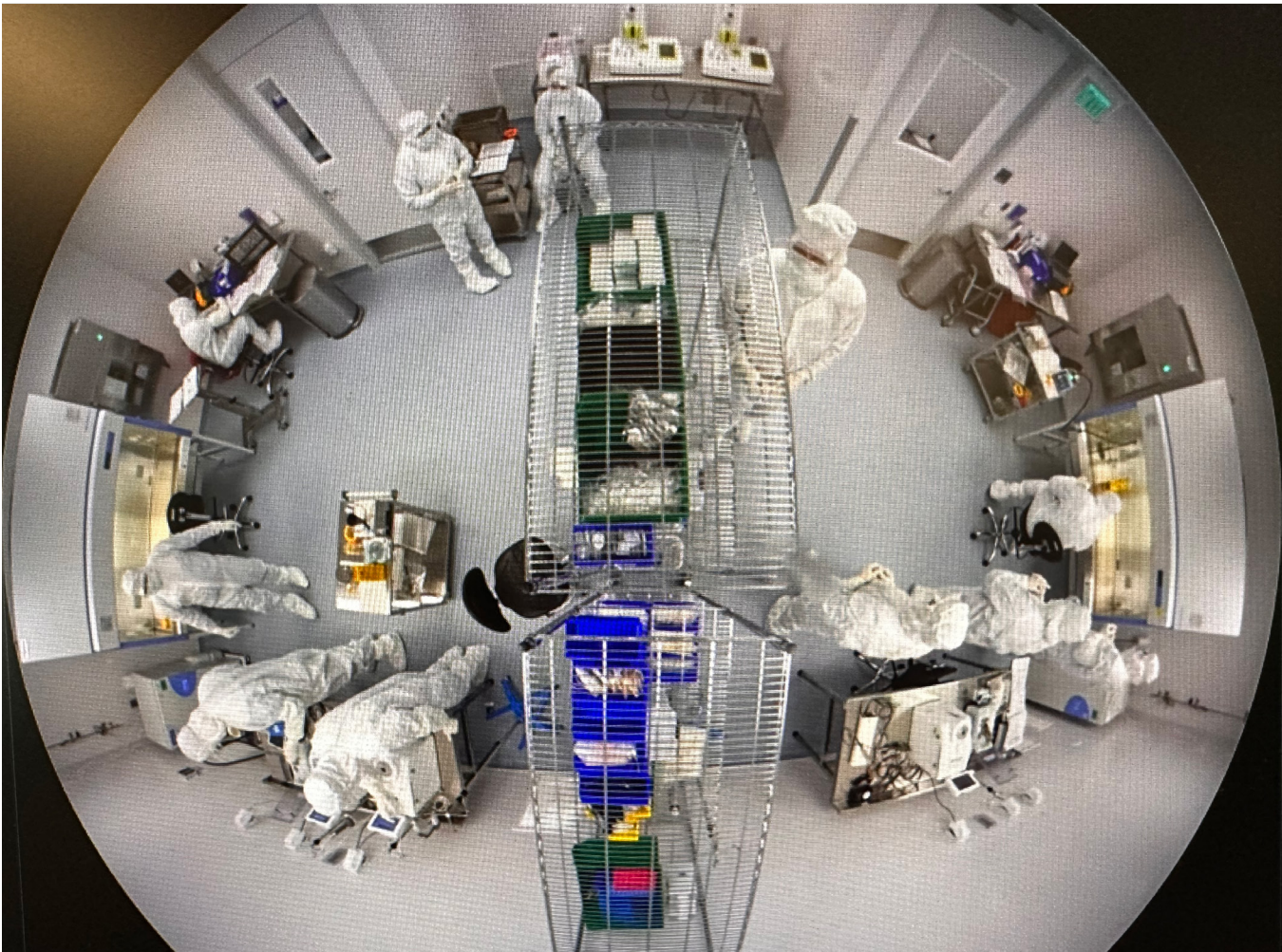
12TH ANNUAL **UCLA MedTECH**
PARTNERING CONFERENCE

INDUSTRY INVESTORS INVENTORS

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024

UCLA TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

ImmPACT Bio Granted FDA Fast Track Designation for IMPT-514



ImmPACT manufacturing room. Clean room, similar to the level of cleanliness used to manufacture computer chips. Manufacturing team is fully gowned to safeguard the patient product. The various instruments lined up against the walls are used to manufacture ImmPACT’s potentially lifesaving products.

IMMPACT BIO USA, INC. (“IMMPACT BIO”), a clinical-stage company developing transformative logic-gate-based chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapies for treating cancer and autoimmune diseases, today announced the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted Fast Track Designation (FTD) for IMPT-514, a potential first-in-class CD19/CD20 CAR-T therapy for the treatment of patients with active refractory lupus nephritis (LN) and systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). In August 2023, ImmPACT Bio received FDA clearance to initiate clinical development of IMPT-514 in an open label Phase 1b/2 dose escalation trial in participants with active, refractory SLE.

“SLE is a systemic, chronic, multi-organ autoimmune disease associated with increased risk of mortality, progressive organ damage, and reduced health-related quality of life. Approximately half of patients with SLE have LN, the most severe manifestation of SLE. Current treatment approaches have demonstrated clinical improvements, but are limited by broad and severe immune suppression, lack of tissue penetration, and chronic administration,” said Sumant Ramachandra, M.D., Ph.D., president, and chief executive officer of ImmPACT Bio. “To address these limitations, IMPT-514 was designed as a one-time treatment option with potential to reset the immune system through deep B-cell depletion.

ImmPACT continued



ImmPACT team receiving blood (leukapheresis product) from a patient. This patient is treated at UCLA, the same university where ImmPACT’s technology was developed by professors Yvonne Chen and Antoni Ribas.

Photos Courtesy of ImmPact Bio



Receiving FTD from the FDA reinforces the therapeutic promise that IMPT-514 holds as the first CD19/CD20 dual targeting CAR T-cell therapy with potential to improve disease activity and renal outcomes for patients with lupus. We look forward to dosing the first patient in our Phase 1b/2 trial for the treatment of active, refractory SLE expected in early 2024.”

Fast Track Designation is designed to help drugs reach patients faster by facilitating the development and expediting the review of drugs with the potential to fill an unmet medical need and treat serious or life-threatening conditions. Programs receiving FTD benefit from early and frequent interactions with the FDA during the clinical development process and, if relevant criteria are met, the FDA may consider reviewing portions of a marketing application before the sponsor submits the complete application.











Reprint Courtesy of [Immpact Bio](https://www.immpactbio.com)

“SLE is a systemic, chronic, multi-organ autoimmune disease associated with increased risk of mortality, progressive organ damage, and reduced health-related quality of life. Approximately half of patients with SLE have LN, the most severe manifestation of SLE. Current treatment approaches have demonstrated clinical improvements, but are limited by broad and severe immune suppression, lack of tissue penetration, and chronic administration,”

— Sumant Ramachandra, M.D., Ph.D., president, and chief executive officer of ImmPACT Bio.

UCLA RANKS TOP 10 IN PITCHBOOK

PITCHBOOK'S ANNUAL UNIVERSITY RANKINGS compare schools by tallying up the number of alumni entrepreneurs who have raised venture capital in the last decade. The rankings are powered by PitchBook data and are based on an analysis of more than 150,000 VC-backed founders.

Ranking		University	Founder count	Company count	Capital raised
1		University of Cambridge	1,156	961	\$29.3B
2		University of California, Berkeley	1,105	906	\$37.2B
3		University of Oxford	981	827	\$29.9B
4		Imperial College London	678	561	\$11.4B
5		University of Michigan	553	460	\$20.5B
6		University of Texas	529	470	\$15.0B
7		Tel Aviv University	515	432	\$12.0B
8		London School of Economics	504	481	\$10.3B
9		University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)	493	422	\$21.4B
10		University of Illinois	457	379	\$12.6B

Source: Pitchbook based on Graduate Founder Count, Public Universities



Season's Greetings!

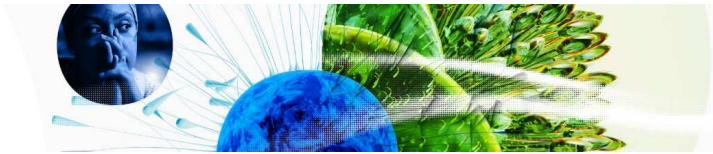
UCLA Ventures | 150 Member Strong is now a part of TDG.

Stay tuned for updates in the new year.

Happy 2024!

UCLA RANKS #1 AND LOS ANGELES RANKS #16 IN GLOBAL INDEX

Global Innovation Index 2023



Los Angeles, United States

Los Angeles is the fifth-ranked cluster, out of 21 American clusters, that falls within the top 100 S&T clusters in 2023. It filed **942 PCT applications** and published **3,593 scientific articles**, both per 1 million inhabitants over the last five years, making it the:

16th largest science and technology cluster in 2023 (unchanged from 2022)

73rd S&T cluster by intensity (relative to population density) in 2023 (up one spot from 2022)

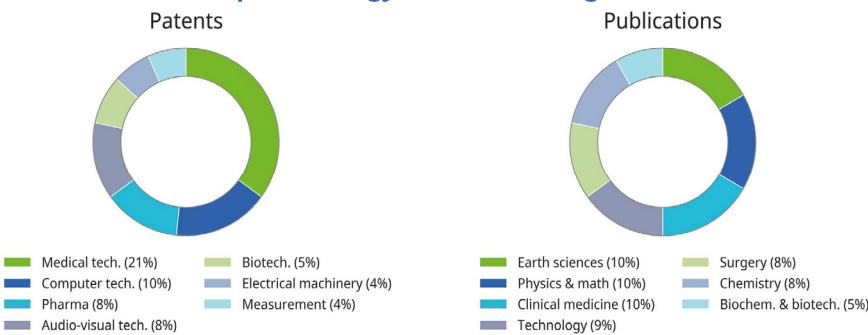
Top PCT applicants

		Patents	Share
1	University of California	788	7%
2	Snap	520	4%
3	Beijing Bytedance Network Technology	498	4%

Top publishing organizations

		Articles	Share
1	University of California Los Angeles	13,181	30%
2	University of Southern California	6,963	16%
3	University of California Irvine	6,235	14%

Top technology fields in Los Angeles



30% of Los Angeles's PCT patent applications are filed in collaboration with other inventors, with **San Jose-San Francisco, Beijing** and **San Diego** emerging as the top collaborative locations.

75% of Los Angeles's scientific articles are published in collaboration with other organizations, with the top three collaborating locations being **San Jose-San Francisco, Boston-Cambridge** and **New York City**.

Infographic Courtesy of [WIPO - World Intellectual Property Organization](#)

WIPO OR WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION'S SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (S&T) CLUSTER RANKING of the Global Innovation Index identifies local concentrations of world-leading science and technology activity. S&T clusters are established through the analysis of patent-filing activity and scientific article publication, documenting the geographical areas around the world with the highest density of inventors and scientific authors.

UCLA TDG STUDENT PROGRAMS

THE TDG STUDENT PROGRAMS offer graduate and undergraduate students paid internships that offer in-depth, hands-on experience in the business of technology transfer and intellectual property management. Along with real-world job skills, the program exposes fellows to new, meaningful career opportunities related to transferring inventions from the lab to the marketplace and, ultimately, to changing the lives of people worldwide through science. Among the skills the fellows acquire are technology evaluation, marketing and business development and tech commercialization. During this unique experience, fellows actively contribute to the commercialization of UCLA technologies.

LIFE SCIENCE TECH FELLOWS



Clara Cano

Biological Chemistry

Clara joined TDG in the fall of 2021 as a Technology Fellow. She is currently a PhD candidate in the Molecular Biology Interdepartmental Program. Her thesis work in Dr. Kathrin Plath's lab seeks to understand how RNA binding proteins shape gene expression and nuclear structure. She is expected to complete her PhD in 2024 and pursue a career in Regulatory Affairs.



Alfredo Enrique Gonzalez

Molecular and Medical Pharmacology

Alfredo received his B.S. in Biochemistry from Providence College with minors in Math and Physics. Following research stints at Harvard and the Broad Institute he joined the department of Molecular Pharmacology as a PhD Student. With hands-on expertise in vitro, in vivo, and in silico; Alfredo's research focuses on utilization of next-gen sequencing technologies in combination with pre-clinical models for determination and validation of genetic drivers of disease, and the development of functional precision therapies. As part of the the UCLA Cancer Data Science team he's helped build computational pipelines and workflows optimized for High-Performance-Computing clusters and processing of patient data.



Yan Li

Biological Chemistry

Yan joined TDG in October 2022 as a Technology Fellow. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Biological Chemistry at UCLA. He obtained his B.A. in Life Sciences from Tsinghua University in China. Yan's research at UCLA is focused on structure-based antisense oligonucleotide designs. As a TDG fellow, he is involved in technology evaluation and marketing. He is expected to graduate in 2023 and is keen on pursuing a career in therapeutic development.



Abril Morales

Molecular Cell and Developmental Biology

Abril joined TDG in February 2022 as a Technology Fellow. She is currently a PhD candidate in the Molecular Biology Interdepartmental Program. Her thesis work in Dr. William Lowry's lab seeks to understand the mitochondrial and metabolomic disturbances of monogenic intellectual disability disorders using stem cell- derived models. She is expected to complete her PhD in 2024 and pursue a career in the biotech industry.



Anita Torossian

Psychology

Anita joined TDG in November 2023 as a Technology Fellow. She is a neuroscience PhD candidate in the Adhikari Lab at UCLA, where she investigates the neural circuits of fear learning and anxiety. Anita received her B.A. in neuroscience and psychology from CUNY Queens College in 2017, and conducted post-baccalaureate research at the NIH on brain metabolism in autism-like disorders. At TDG, Anita will work closely with patent applications and convey the impact of their technologies to facilitate licensing opportunities. Her goal is to pursue a career that accelerates the impact of scientific discoveries for public good.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE TECH FELLOWS



Michael Mellody

Bioengineering

Michael joined TDG in November 2023 as a Physical Sciences Technology Fellow. He is currently a 3rd year PhD candidate in the Department of Bioengineering at UCLA. His research interests include developing new single cell screening approaches to better understand fibrotic diseases and produce new therapies. He is expected to graduate in 2025.



Katie White

Chemistry & Biochemistry

Katie joined TDG in January 2023 and is currently the Senior Technology Fellow on the Physical Sciences team. She is a Ph.D. candidate in Materials Chemistry and her research focuses on investigating and controlling intermolecular forces at the nanoscale. She is expected to graduate in the summer of 2024 and will pursue career opportunities in patent prosecution in the Bay Area.



Cayden Williamson

Bioengineering

Cayden joined TDG in 2023 as a Technology fellow. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Bioengineering at UCLA in Professor Dino DiCarlo's group. After receiving his B.S. from UC Berkeley, Cayden spent two years at a single-cell sequencing startup before beginning grad school. His current research is focused on creating platforms to accelerate synthetic biology workflows used in biomanufacturing. He expects to graduate in 2024 and make the jump to industry.

NEW VENTURES AND INNOVATION FUND FELLOWS



Ian Bai

MBA

Ian Bai joined TDG in September 2023 as a New Ventures Fellow. Ian Bai is a second-year MBA student at UCLA Anderson School of Management. Before MBA, Ian spent 2 years at Deloitte advising private equity clients through M&A due diligence and guiding corporate investors' entry into the China market, with a primary focus on the TMT sector. Ian then worked as a Strategy Manager at Tencent, the leading Chinese technology company, for another 3 years. For his MBA summer internship, Ian worked as an Investment Banking Summer Associate at Morgan Stanley's Technology Coverage team in Hong Kong, where he grew his expertise in finance and investment.



Melis Cakar

Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences

Melis joined the TDG in Fall 2023 as a New Ventures Fellow for the Therapeutics Track. Melis is a PhD candidate in the Neuroscience Interdepartmental Program, and she received her BA in Neuroscience from Pomona College prior to graduate school. She researches the neural mechanisms of sensory processing in typically-developing and autistic individuals using human neuroimaging. Melis aims to pursue a career in the biotechnology industry and plans to graduate in December 2024.



Salena Gallardo

Neurobiology

Salena joined TDG in the fall of 2021. She is a PhD candidate in the Neurobiology lab of Samantha Butler. Salena's thesis work focuses on defining the molecular mechanisms that give rise to different classes of dorsal interneurons during spinal cord development. Upon completion of her degree, she plans to pursue a role in Life Science Venture Capital. As a TDG New Ventures Fellow, Salena works closely with UCLA faculty, aiding in pitch deck formation, competitive analysis, and technical risk assessment.



Swarali Ghodkhande

Civil and Environmental Engineering

Swarali joined TDG as a new venture fellow in Sept 2023. She is currently in her 3rd year of PhD, her research is on decarbonization technology for the cement industry. As a TDG fellow, she worked with two femtech-related early-stage technologies at UCLA. She is passionate about working in the clean tech industry after her PhD.



Bitta Kahangi

Department of Medicine Pulmonary

Bitta joined TDG in September 2023 as a New Ventures Fellow. She is currently a PhD candidate in the Molecular Biology Interdepartmental Program. Her work in Dr. Steven Dubinett's lab focuses on examining the tumor intrinsic and host immune regulatory mechanisms that promote anti-tumor responses following inhibition of a non-mutant therapeutic target for non-small cell lung cancer. Following graduation, she aims to continue conducting translational research elucidating the immunopathogenesis of lung cancer and developing novel cancer immunotherapies.



John Lee

Molecular Cellular and Integrative Physiology

John joined TDG in September 2023 as a Venture Fellow. He is currently in the dual ophthalmology residency and PhD program (STAR program) at UCLA. He obtained his B.A. in Biochemistry with a minor focus in Global Health Technologies at Rice University and received his M.D. from University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. His research at UCLA is focused on engineering exosomes as a cell-free, regenerative therapy for the cornea. He will complete his PhD in 2025 and continue this residency training before a career that integrates both medicine and biotech ventures.



Joseph Olives

MS Materials Science and Engineering

Joe joined TDG in August 2023 as a Medtech Venture Fellow. He is currently a part-time MS candidate in Materials Science and Engineering, while working full-time in biotech technology and product development. Joe's interdisciplinary research and future entrepreneurial interests primarily focus on engineering of high-parameter platforms for diagnostic and drug discovery.



Kshitija Shah

Civil & Environmental Engineering

Kshitija joined TDG in February 2023 as a New Ventures Fellow. She is currently a PhD candidate in the department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Her thesis work in Dr. Shaily Mahendra's lab is focused on studying and harnessing the power of microorganisms to biologically transform toxic environmental contaminants into less toxic compounds, make water safer, and enhance resource and energy recovery during wastewater treatment. She is expected to complete her PhD in 2024 and pursue a career in the cleantech, environmental biotechnology, and sustainability space.



Susana Sun

Computer Science

Susana joined TDG in August 2023 as a New Ventures Data and Operations fellow. She is currently in her second year as an undergraduate student at UCLA majoring in computer science. Susana envisions a future where she leverages her skills as a software engineer or data scientist, with aspirations to establish her own startup upon completing her degree. As a TDG New Ventures Fellow, Susana is involved with data management and technology innovations.



Toni Zhang

MBA

Toni joined TDG as a Technology Innovation Fellow in October 2023. Currently an MBA candidate at UCLA Anderson, she brings a wealth of experience as a Senior Marketing Manager at Amgen. With a proven track record in the commercial leadership of five blockbuster drug brands across her tenures at Amgen, GSK, and AstraZeneca, Toni has been at the forefront of turning scientific innovation into market realities. She holds dual B.S. degrees in Biology and Marketing from the University of Maryland, underscoring her deep belief in the power of science to make a difference. At TDG, Toni is dedicated to advancing this mission, bridging the gap between groundbreaking science and its commercial application to improve patient lives.

MARKETING AND OUTREACH WRAP UP



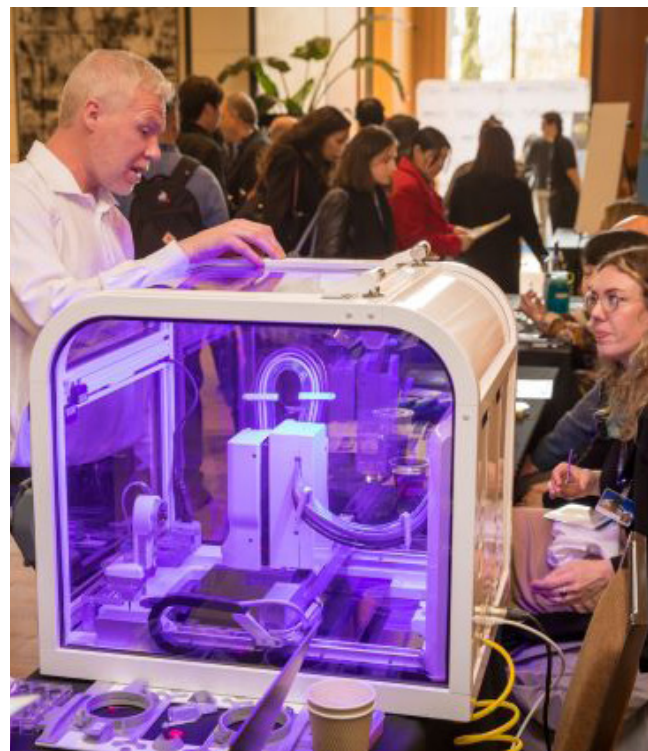
UCLA TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT GROUP hosted Medtech and Oncology webinars exclusively for investors and venture capitalists with our colleagues from Yale and University of Michigan. It was a key event that highlighted tech from top universities around the country. You can watch the [Oncology webinar here](#).

UCLA TDG also hosted the [11th Annual UCLA MedTech Partnering Conference](#) and [LABEST](#) (Los Angeles Bioscience Ecosystem Summit 2023) in person last March and May 2023. We reached groundbreaking attendance for both events with 400+ at MedTech and 1200+ at LABEST. Both main track talks are available on [YouTube](#) and don't forget to subscribe to our channel while you're there.

The UCLA TDG New Ventures organized the bi-monthly Founders mixer held at CNSI. The event has no agenda and is simply a way to bring folks from UCLA Anderson, Researchers and CNSI startups to relax and meetup with hosted food and drink. Stay tuned for the next event in January.



UCLA MedTech 2023



Photos: UCLA TDG

MARKETING AND OUTREACH WRAP UP continued



Yingjie Du, PhD candidate and member of The He Lab holds the winning check with Aioi Executives

UCLA TDG and Aioi Nissay Dowa hosted the first Cleantech for Mobility Pitch Day. The Innovation Fund model was used to identify and support faculty research in cleantech. Three teams pitched their projects to vie for \$150,000. Congratulations to Dr. Ximin He and team for the winning pitch on Composite Gel Electrolytes for Next Generation Batteries. [The He Lab](#) is headed by Principal Investigator Ximin He, assistant professor of Materials Science and Engineering at UCLA.

The tdg.ucla.edu website continues to grow content and remain a resource for our researchers and community. You can find industry research opportunities that highlight call for submissions via [In-Part](#) and the [TDG Hub](#) is a listing of campus and ecosystem associations, partner service vendors and funding leads.

Register for the [12th Annual MedTech Partnering Conference](#) scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, 2024. Early bird pricing is \$75 through early January. LABEST 2024 is scheduled for Thursday, May 23, 2024. Both flagship event will be held at the UCLA Luskin Conference Center.

A final note about social media. We post regularly on [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and [X](#). Make sure to follow us @uclatdg on all platforms. Plus you can sign up for our [UCLA TDG e-newsletter](#) for the latest developments on UCLA research and startup companies.



LABEST 2023

Photos: UCLA TDG

UCLA TDG UPDATES

Board Announcements

UCLA TDG would like to thank the following board members for their hard work and dedication throughout the years. Their leadership has helped form TDG into what it is today and through their guidance, the organization has grown into a major tech transfer office in the United States.



Fabrizio Bonanni
Executive Vice President,
Amgen (Retired)



Michael Cleare
Associate Vice Provost
for Research,
University of Pennsylvania



John Mapes
Managing Partner,
Aurora Capital
Partners



Bill Mitchell
Founding Partner,
Sequel Venture
Partners, LLC



Tom Unterman
Founding Partner,
Rustic Canyon Partners

Welcome New Board Members



Brian Israel
Partner, Arnold & Porter

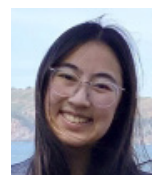


Arvin Patel
Chief Licensing Officer,
New Markets
Director, Nokia Bell Labs

Staff Announcements



Stella Huang
Patent Prosecution &
Compliance Assistant



Lucy Yin
Patent Prosecution &
Compliance Assistant



Thibault Renac
BDO Life Sciences

Lauren Ramirez ISR Research and Material Transfer Coordinator

UCLA TDG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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and Public Health, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

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Immunology Janssen R&D, Johnson & Johnson

LAURA SCHOPPE

Founder, Fuentek

UCLA TDG EXECUTIVE STAFF

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Associate Vice Chancellor – CEO and President

TIM GRAUERHOLZ

Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operations Officer

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Senior Director of Physical Sciences and Engineering

NATASHA RADOVSKY

Senior Director of Contracts

MARK WISNIEWSKI

Senior Director of Biopharmaceuticals

THOMAS LIPKIN

Director of UCLA Innovation Fund and New Ventures

LAURA VAN NOSTRAND

Director of Human Resources

KARLA ZEPEDA

Director of Industry Research and Material Transfer



UCLA TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT GROUP (TDG) promotes UCLA innovation, research, education and entrepreneurship to benefit society. Working with UCLA TDG helps facilitate the translation of UCLA discoveries into new products and services that create economic value to support UCLA's scholarly and educational missions. The UCLA TDG office manages a large portfolio of technologies and license agreements and has a rich history of startup company formation.

CONNECT WITH UCLA TDG:

Visit us at tdg.ucla.edu

Contact us at marketing@tdg.ucla.edu

Connect with us @UCLATDG



UCLA Technology Development Group
10889 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 920
Los Angeles, CA 90095
310-794-0558