

International News

The STC Internship Program for technology transfer professionals and students interested in technology transfer was started in 2011 as an international project with Poznan University in Poland. Since then, project has become a fully developed program for university professionals and students from other countries who want to learn best practices for technology transfer from a U.S. university program.



Cara Michaliszyn, Erin Beaumont, Lisa Kuuttila, Naoto Nakamura, Arlene Mirabal

The internship program for professionals is an intensive 1-4 week program providing participants with comprehensive knowledge, including administration and operation, and commercialization and management of inventions. The internship program for students is an intensive 5-day program designed to provide students with an overall understanding of the role and responsibilities of a technology transfer office, and to foster an entrepreneurial mindset. The programs are administered by experienced STC staff, as well as accomplished entrepreneurs and business professionals.



Akinori Hisatsune, Yukori Kai, Gregg Mayer, Fahim Kabir Monjurul Haque, Meng Sun, Wu Meikui, Huan Luo

The Internship Program hosted two groups this fall and will be gearing up for another visit during the spring semester. Naoto Nakamura, president of Kanazawa University's technology transfer program, KUTLO, visited STC for the week of November 3rd and five graduate students from Kumamoto University's HIGO program visited STC for the week of November 17th. In March, two groups

of doctoral students and program coordinators from Osaka Prefecture University's TEC (technology-based entrepreneurship course) program will visit STC for two weeks to participate in boot camps to learn how to prepare business plans and pitch their technologies.

For more information about the internship programs, contact STC Economic Development Manager Eri Hoshi at ehoshi@stc.unm.edu or 505-272-7039.

Economic Development Forum (EDF)

The Economic Development Forum (EDF) was formed in 2012 by the STC.UNM Board of Directors to provide input and guidance to STC on economic development. EDF's role as advisor to STC.UNM and President Frank is critical to the success of UNM's economic development initiatives. EDF is chaired by UNM President Robert Frank with STC board member and School of Engineering Dean Joseph Cecchi serving as deputy chair. Currently, the EDF has 151 members from the local and state business, educational, and government communities.

STC hosts monthly EDF meetings to present various topics on economic development activities by members and others. These meetings are opportunities for information sharing and networking among the members. Recent meetings have included presentations on the Association of Commerce and Industry, the UNM Innovation Academy, technology transfer at Sandia National Labs, the UNM research office, angel investments, Innovate ABQ, the City's Innovation Central, the Greater Albuquerque Area Chamber of Commerce, the state of New Mexico's economic development strategy, UNM global activities, the UNM Health Sciences Center, Japanese growth industries and many more.

For more information about EDF, contact STC Economic Development Manager Eri Hoshi at ehoshi@stc.unm.edu or 505-272-7039.

Economic Development Council (EDC)

The Economic Development Council (EDC) was established by President Frank in 2013 to serve as a coordinating entity and think tank for the internal UNM community on economic development initiatives, specifically focusing on how UNM can impact the New Mexico economy. The council is comprised of UNM faculty and administrators.

The University of New Mexico is interested in measuring its progress toward meeting economic development objectives, as part of the UNM 2020 strategic plan. The EDC would like to thank UNM faculty for their time and support in completing an internal survey during the 2014 fall semester. STC.UNM, as the economic development arm for UNM, administered the survey and below are some results:

The survey was distributed via the faculty list serv to over 3,000 faculty emails; there were 349 responses and 248 complete responses. The responses revealed:

85% of faculty believe economic development should be a priority of their department.

95% of faculty believe economic development should be a priority of UNM (“moderate to very high responses”).

60% of faculty assess their support of economic development as “good or higher” for their department/school/college and UNM, a slight improvement over last year.

Two-thirds of the faculty believe that UNM performs in the range of good to excellent in the following economic development measures:

- ~ Engages and asserts institutional leadership
- ~ Ensures that economic development activities benefit the public
- ~ Provides relevant education opportunities and programs

A little over half of the faculty believe that UNM performs good or better in the following economic development measures:

- ~ Creates a supportive culture
- ~ Develops an innovation economy
- ~ Promotes openness, accessibility and responsiveness
- ~ Communicates contributions, successes, and achievements that benefit region

Interestingly, these results are somewhat different from the external community survey. The community rated UNM higher than the faculty did for the following measures: creates a supportive culture; develops an innovation economy; promotes openness, accessibility, and responsiveness; and communicates contributions, successes, and achievements that benefit region. Develops an innovation economy was especially higher (106 responses on the external survey and 44 complete surveys).

Again, thank you UNM faculty for your time.

Joseph L. Cecchi VentureLab



The Joseph L. Cecchi VentureLab (CVL) is STC’s incubator, providing shared office facilities, business services, mentoring, advice, and a location for the specialized facilities and laboratories required to support ventures in the life sciences, physical sciences, and engineering. The incubator is an ideal complement to STC’s tech transfer program. The CVL connects university researchers, inventors, faculty, staff, students, entrepreneurs, venture capital firms, and small technology companies in various stages of development and assists them with the commercialization of UNM technologies through start-up company formation and development. The CVL equips these new companies with a healthy foundation and necessary resources—improving their chance for success.

CVL interns collaborate with faculty inventors and entrepreneurs to perform market research and identify strategies for the commercialization of technologies, considering marketing potential, competitive environment, and more to advance business opportunities for UNM-developed technologies and companies.

So far in FY2015, the CVL has provided services to six physical tenants and 12 virtual tenants.

For more information on CVL services or to apply for physical or virtual office space, contact STC New Ventures Development Manager Cara Michaliszyn at cmichaliszyn@stc.unm.edu or 505-272-7297.