During September and November, the STC Professional Internship Academy hosted students and professors from Japanese universities Osaka Prefecture University (OPU) and the HIGO program at Kumamoto University. The Academy’s student internship program is an intensive five-day program designed for students who seek to gain an understanding of the role of a technology transfer office.

On September 21st, the Academy hosted a week-long visit of students and faculty from Osaka Prefecture University (OPU). The five students were accompanied by Professor Atsushi Ashida. The students attending were Nguyen Quang Thinh, a doctoral student in mechanical engineering; Emmanuel Ayedoun, an undergraduate student in computer science; Tomoki Sakamoto, a graduate student in mechanical engineering; Daisuke Kino, a graduate student in materials science; and Shota Sawai, a graduate student in materials science.

During the weeks of November 9th and November 16th, the Academy hosted two groups of students from the HIGO program (master and doctoral students in health life sciences) at Kumamoto University, who were accompanied by Professors Fumiaki Yasukawa and Akinori Hitsatsune. The students attending were Mouree Kumkum Rahman, Islam Md Tanvir, Dulla Yevgeny Aster, Mojumder Suman, Kinoshita Ryo, Amira Abdeldaim Ibrahim Ahmed, Chowdhury Abhijit, Yoshimoto Hidetaka, Ahmed Fouad Abdelwahab Mohammed, and Rahman Md Mostafizur.

For more information about international programs, contact STC University Ventures & International Engagements Manager Eri Hoshi at ehoshi@stc.unm.edu or 505-510-0939.
Economic Development Council (EDC)

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 the third annual internal survey during the 2015 fall semester. STC, as the economic development arm for UNM, administered the survey and below are some results:

The survey was distributed via faculty listerv to over 3,000 faculty emails; there were 133 responses and 101 complete responses. The responses revealed:

- 88% of the faculty believe economic development should be a priority of their college/school and 90% of the faculty believe economic development should be a priority of UNM (“moderate to very high responses”).

- 65% of the faculty assess the support of economic development as “good or higher” for UNM, a 7% improvement since 2013.

- Approximately two-thirds of the faculty believe that UNM performs in the range “good to excellent” in the following economic development measures. These have all improved 5-10% over the past two years:
  - Engage and assert institutional leadership
  - Develop an innovation economy
  - Provide relevant education opportunities and programs

- Over half of the faculty believe that UNM performs good or better in the following economic development measures:
  - Create a supportive culture
  - Ensure that university activities benefit the public
  - Promote openness, accessibility and responsiveness
  - Communicate contributions, successes, and achievements that benefit the region

At the 2012 Summit, the “Rainforest” approach was considered as a new way for UNM and the community to spur economic growth by creating a concentrated entrepreneurial environment. The 2015 Summit focused on what has worked for UNM and plans for what should happen next. The summit program featured UNM President Robert Frank and several special guests, including representatives from local and state government, the state's national labs, the business community, and Innovate ABQ who discussed their views on the role of research universities and the future of the state's economic development. Co-author of The Rainforest: The Secret to Building the Next Silicon Valley, Gregg Horowitt, was the keynote luncheon speaker. Mr. Horowitt, an experienced entrepreneur and investor, is the co-creator of the Rainforest concept, which explains how innovation ecosystems work and how to grow them.

Innovate ABQ News

STC recently signed the final closing documents for the transfer of real estate at the Innovate ABQ property located at 101 Broadway Boulevard NE. Legal ownership of the property has now been transferred from STC to the Innovate ABQ, Inc., corporation. STC CEO Lisa Kuuttila and Innovate ABQ, Inc., Board Chair Terry Laudick were present to sign the documents. “The last few details in transferring ownership of the property have now been completed and we are very happy to have accomplished this action, which of course is a necessary step in the development process of the Innovate ABQ site,” said Ms. Kuuttila. Innovate ABQ, Inc., is currently working with the development team on plans for Phase I. STC continues to support Innovate ABQ in its role as UNM's representative for the project.

Economic Development Forum (EDF)

The University of New Mexico and the University of New Mexico Economic Development Summit, Rainforest 2: The University of New Mexico Economic Development Summit 2015, on Monday, October 26, 2015, at the University of New Mexico Student Union Building. It has been three years since the first UNM Economic Development Summit held in September, 2012. UNM has been an active partner in revitalizing the local economy and substantial progress has been made. STC.UNM has led economic development efforts at UNM during the past three years, gathering input and taking action through external and internal advisory groups and the STC.UNM Board of Directors.

STC.UNM and the University of New Mexico hosted the second Economic Development Summit, Rainforest 2: The University of New Mexico Economic Development Summit 2015, on Monday, October 26, 2015, at the University of New Mexico Student Union Building. It has been three years since the first UNM Economic Development Summit held in September, 2012. UNM has been an active partner in revitalizing the local economy and substantial progress has been made. STC.UNM has led economic development efforts at UNM during the past three years, gathering input and taking action through external and internal advisory groups and the STC.UNM Board of Directors.

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