Building Research Collaborations with Industry

UT Dallas Corporate Open House
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University R&D Expenditures by Source

Source: NSF
University and Industry Missions

- **University**
  - Education of students
  - Creation of knowledge
  - Dissemination of knowledge
  - Economic development

- **Industry**
  - Create value for shareholders
University Contributions to Industry Mission

• Training current/future workforce
• Advancing state of the art
• Filtering/organizing knowledge
• Performance of research for industry
• Licensing of university technology
• Objectively testing/evaluating new technology
• Fostering economic development
Industry Contributions to University Mission

• Employing students/graduates
• Gifts (money, equipment, in-kind)
• Access to specialized industry equipment/resources
• Sponsored research
• Publication
• Making university technology available to the public
Spectrum of University-Industry Research Interactions

- Active Involvement In University Research
  - Low
  - High

- Type of Research
  - Basic/fundamental
  - Applied

- SRAs
- Gifts
- Consortia
- IUCRCs
- SBIR/STTR
- Lab Use Agreements
- Service Agreements
- Testing Agreements

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Barriers – Culture and Time

- **Cultural conflict**
  - Open v. closed
  - Pursuit of knowledge v. profit

- **Time horizons**
  - Academic calendar v. quarterly earnings
  - Long-term projects for graduate students v. short-term results for supervisors
Barriers - Intellectual property

• Issue – How research is viewed
  – Industry – research as transaction
    • Own/control IP resulting from research they sponsor
  – University – research as an ongoing enterprise
    • Continuous investment in personnel and infrastructure that makes research possible

• Barrier – Conflicting views on the relative investment in and value of intellectual property

• Options
  – Option on research program IP
  – Joint inventorship/ownership
  – Public disclosure/public domain

Goal: Making university discoveries available to benefit the public
Questions?

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