

## OCAST provides funding for 46 research and development projects, paving the way for further economic growth and diversification in Oklahoma's economy

June 16, 2015

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OCAST, the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology, this week awarded \$6,178,695 million for 41 research and development projects ranging from the development of nano-scaled lithium-ion batteries to innovative mineral recovery techniques to next generation antibiotics. "The quality of the proposals, and the innovation behind them, was truly outstanding this year," stated Dan Luton, director of programs for OCAST.

In addition to awarding funding for research and development projects, OCAST also awarded 5 internships through the Intern Partnership program. According to Tessa North, programs manager at OCAST, "The Intern Partnership program is a great way for industry and academia to come together and develop solutions to real problems, while at the same time exposing university students to high-tech careers. The bottom line is that the program provides students with valuable experience, universities with an opportunity to gain a better understanding of current industry needs and industry an avenue to form a relationship with the state's R&D resources."

Across all OCAST programs, the research and development being conducted will attract further public and private investment, create new technologies, new patents and new jobs and will ultimately benefit the citizens of Oklahoma. "The awards made today reflect the continued commitment of Oklahoma to the diversification and expansion of our economy," according to C. Michael Carolina, executive director of OCAST. "In order for states to compete in the knowledge-based economy, it is imperative to make early stage investments in the development of new technologies and innovations."

Successful applicants and their organizations follow:

### Health Research

Richard Kopke	Hough Ear Institute
Harini Bagavant	Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Umesh S Deshmukh	Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Courtney Griffin	Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Christopher Sansam	Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Aikaterini Thanou	Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation
Sundararajan V. Madihally	Oklahoma State University
Adam S. Duerfeldt	University of Oklahoma
Yuchen Qiu	University of Oklahoma
Sharukh S. Khajotia	University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Anne Kasus-Jacobi	University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Xi-Qin Ding	University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Tabitha Garwe	University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Zoltan Ungvari	University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Guangpu Li	University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Yun Zheng Le	University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Carol P. Dionne	University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
David R Stanford	University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Marie H. Hanigan  
Lawrence Rothblum  
Ralf Janknecht  
Jamie L. Rhudy

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center  
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center  
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center  
University of Tulsa

#### **Applied Research Support**

Ronald Wassel  
Vince Shotton  
Lloyd Salsman  
Richard Kopke  
Jonathan Lancaster  
Jennifer Chain  
James Manimala  
Guolong Zhang  
Ranjith Ramanathan  
Pankaj Sarin  
Badia Koudsi  
Dr. Rico Buchli  
David W. Goad  
Brian Grady  
Li Song  
Dr. Rajasekar Pitchimani

Charlesson, LLC  
Compression Solutions, Inc.  
Frontier Electronic Systems Corp.  
Hough Ear Institute  
HydroHoist Marine Group, Inc.  
Moleculera Labs  
Oklahoma State University  
Oklahoma State University  
Oklahoma State University  
Oklahoma State University  
Optecks, LLC  
Pure Protein, LLC  
SensiQ Technologies, Inc.  
United Guar  
University of Oklahoma  
XploSafe, LLC

#### **Plant Science**

Ramanjulu Sunkar  
Charles Chen  
Elison B. Blancaflor

Oklahoma State University  
Oklahoma State University  
Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation

#### **Intern Partnership**

Robert Leland  
Surendra Singh  
Surendra Singh  
Kaveh Ashenayi  
Kaveh Ashenayi

Oral Roberts University  
University of Tulsa  
University of Tulsa  
University of Tulsa  
University of Tulsa