

South Texas Technology Management Offers Proof of Concept Grants to Accelerate Research Commercialization

Proposals for Fall 2009 *POCsparc* grants must be submitted by October 16

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SAN ANTONIO (September 2, 2009) – South Texas Technology Management (STTM), which works to stimulate innovation at four University of Texas System institutions and helps to commercialize new technologies, today announced that it is seeking proposals for its Fall 2009 *Proof of Concept: Short Proposals to Accelerate Research Commercialization (POCsparc)* Grant Program. STTM provides technology transfer services for the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA), the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), the University of Texas at Brownsville (UTB), and the University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA).

Funding for *POCsparc* grants has been made available through the San Antonio Life Sciences Institute (SALSI), a joint program of UTHSCSA and UTSA formed to promote greater scientific collaboration between the two institutions.

Proposals eligible for a *POCsparc* award must support collaborative projects:

- Between researchers from UTHSCSA and UTSA, or
- Between UTHSCSA or UTSA researchers and UTB or UTPA researchers.

UTSA faculty proposals may also be considered for *POCroadrunner (POCrr)* grants, which are funded through a supplement to the Emerging Technology Fund award that established the UTSA Institute for Cyber Security.

The *POCsparc* grants provide up to \$25,000 to help advance UT inventions toward commercialization. Proposals should be based on a UT technology that, once the proposed work is completed, will be ready for commercial application. Prior to submission of a proposal, an Invention Disclosure Form must have been filed with STTM. Proposals are judged on the value proposition for the use of the funds, and favorable characteristics of the invention include:

- Inventions that have the potential to become novel "core" or "platform" technologies for multiple products;
- Inventions for which a likely commercial partner has been identified;
- Inventions with the potential for significant financial return;
- Inventions that command a strong proprietary position;
- Projects likely to benefit significantly from an investment;
- Projects with specific objectives that can be completed within six months;
- Projects that are likely candidates for follow-on funding.

Grant proposals are due to STTM by 5:00 PM Friday, October 16, 2009.

To learn more about the *POCsparc* Grant Program, including previous award recipients, selection criteria and the grant application process, please refer to the POC webpage, <http://www.utsystem.edu/sttm/sparc.shtml>, or contact Claude Longoria at 210.567.2147 or LongoriaCC@uthscsa.edu.

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South Texas Technology Management (STTM) is the regional technology transfer office serving the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, UT San Antonio, UT Brownsville and UT Pan American. STTM provides comprehensive intellectual property services for technologies developed by faculty, staff and students. STTM is dedicated to the protection and licensing of these technologies in order to further research and development, protect the interests of the faculty and the University, enhance economic development and provide humanitarian value to the community. By facilitating the development and commercialization of UT inventions, STTM is fostering innovation and encouraging the creation of new and cutting-edge technologies. To learn more about STTM please refer to www.utsttm.org.