2023 was fantastic — a year packed with accomplishments, including three start-ups launched and several in the pipeline; the very first application round of our Blazer Bridge Fund, which resulted in six worthy UAB technologies each winning $50,000; and three new full-time employees, each of which has brought persistence, dedication and hard work to the HIIE. In November 2023, when some of our team were in Seattle to accept the Association of Public Land-grant Universities’ prestigious Innovation Award, we found ourselves imbued with a sense of pride in what we’ve created here at the Harbert Institute. We are all grateful for the opportunity to serve the UAB community, and look forward to a robust, fruitful 2024.
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## 2023 IMPACT REPORT

### Standout Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$6.12M</th>
<th>123</th>
<th>684</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue Generated</td>
<td>Intellectual Property Disclosures</td>
<td>Inventors Engaged</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>18</th>
<th>40</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Patents Issued</td>
<td>Licenses Executed</td>
<td>Start-ups Launched</td>
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<tr>
<th>7</th>
<th>45</th>
<th>53</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Innovate Fellows</td>
<td>Marketing Campaigns</td>
<td>Fellows Reports</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kirklin Solutions, founded by James Kirklin, M.D., is a healthcare tech company dedicated to bringing research insights and analytic methods directly to clinicians at point of care to improve patient outcomes and reduce cost.

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Adjuvax, founded by Pengfei Wang, Ph.D., specializes in vaccine adjuvant discovery and development. The start-up received $100,000 from Innovate Alabama in 2023 to develop a new adjuvant formulation for various vaccines.

< READ MORE HERE

ImmPrev Bio, founded by Charles Elson, M.D., intends to commercialize a novel diagnostic tool and early-stage treatment for Crohn’s disease. The treatment and tool are based on groundbreaking research efforts out of Elson’s lab.

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Reinvesting in UAB

- **$300K** Awarded
- **$50K** Per Project
- **90** Inventors
- **48** Applications
- **Across 34** UAB Departments

First-ever round of funding

6 Grants awarded

- School of Medicine
  - Treatment Methods for Viral Infections
- School of Education
  - TeaCha, a Social App for Teachers
- School of Engineering
  - Spiromatics: An AI-based Lung Function Solutions Suite
  - Designed Protein Nanopores
  - Antibiotic-eluting Sinus Stents
  - Immunotherapeutic Targeting of FCRL6
The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) named UAB as one of the four winners of its 2023 Innovation and Economic Prosperity (IEP) University Awards.

The awards recognize innovative projects or programs in economic engagement. UAB received the IEP Innovation Award, which recognizes exemplary initiatives spurring innovation, entrepreneurship and technology-based economic development.

HIIE Executive Director Kathy Nugent, Ph.D., accepted the award at the APLU Annual Meeting, held in Seattle in November 2023.
Moon Nahm, M.D., and Michael Niederweis, Ph.D., both UAB inventors with patents, were honored as members of the 2023 class of NAI Senior Members.

The UAB Chapter of the National Academy of Inventors, which is in its second year of existence, inducted seven new members in 2023. New members included:

- Anupam Agarwal, M.D.
- Charles Amsler, Ph.D.
- Peter Anderson, DVM, Ph.D.
- David Bedwell, Ph.D.
- Kim Keeling, Ph.D.
- James McClintock, Ph.D.
- Tim Townes, Ph.D.
Recipients of this year’s Innovation Awards included:

Most Prolific Inventors
Kyle Wood, M.D.
Surya Bhatt, M.D.
Sandeep Bodduluri, M.D.
Arie Nakhmani, Ph.D.

Community Partnership of the Year
Innovate Alabama
Cynthia Crutchfield, CEO

Start-Up of the Year
Adjuvax
Pengfei Wang, Ph.D.

Most Outstanding Entrepreneurship Student
Alex Cox

EntreprenHER Award
Ashita Tolwani, M.D.

Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship
Vivek Lal, M.D.
in 2023, the HIIE welcomed our first two in-office student workers!

Birthe Franck-Petersen, also a UAB Track and Field athlete, served as a Communications Student Assistant, working primarily with video.

Jimmy Pham, our first Business Development Intern, was featured in a UAB Reporter story on how a childhood surgery at UAB set him on a path to study biotechnology and drug development.

Business Development Analyst Amanda Dove was named a UAB VIP Award winner in 2023. The VIP Awards honor employees who embody UAB’s shared values, and are considered the highest honor for UAB staff.

HIIE Executive Director Kathy Nugent, Ph.D., was named to the Birmingham Business Journal’s Power 60, a list of the Magic City’s most influential business leaders. She has been on the list consistently since 2014.
In 2023, we added three new full-time employees. Licensing Associate Audrey Brown, J.D., Financial Associate Anita Estis and Program Manager Aisha Nabegu, MBA, all became part of our quickly growing team.
