



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

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.

Table of Contents

- 4 Standout Numbers
- 5 Start-Ups
- Reinvesting in UAB Blazer Bridge Fund
- 7 APLU Innovation Award
- National Academy of Inventors Induction
- 9 Innovation Awards
- 10 HIIE Highlights
- Staff Additions & Our Team
- 12 Year in Snapshots

Standout Numbers



\$6.12M

Revenue Generated



123

Intellectual Property Disclosures



684

Inventors Engaged



18

U.S. Patents Issued



40

Licenses Executed



3

Start-ups Launched



7

Innovate Fellows



45

Marketing Campaigns



53

Fellows Reports

Start-Ups



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.

READ MORE HERE >

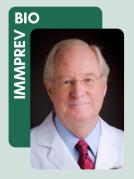
Adjuvax, founded by Pengfei Wang, Ph.D., specializes in vaccine adjuvant discovery and development. The start-up received \$100,000 from Innovate Alabama in 2023



to develop a new adjuvant formulation for various vaccines.

< READ MORE HERE

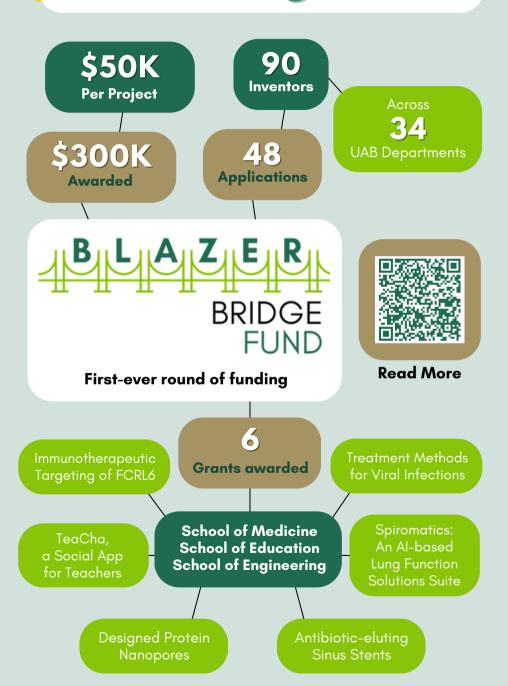




ImmPrev Bio, founded by Charles Elson, M.D., intends to commercialize a novel diagnostic tool and early-stage treatment for Crohn's disease. The treatment and tool are based on groundbreaking research efforts out of Elson's lab.

READ MORE HERE >

Reinvesting in UAB



APLU Innovation Award



The Association of Public and Landgrant 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.

in Seattle in

READ MORE HERE >

National Academy of Inventors



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.



Innovation Awards







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

- 2 the Year Innovate Alabama Cynthia Crutchfield, CEO
- 3 Adjuvax Pengfei Wang, Ph.D.
- Most Outstanding
 Entrepreneurship Student
 Alex Cox
- 5 EntrepreHER Award Ashita Tolwani, M.D.
- Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship Vivek Lal, M.D.

HIIE Highlights

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.

READ MORE HERE >



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.

READ MORE >

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

READ MORE >

since 2014.

Staff Additions







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.



OUR TEAM (from left): Aisha Nabegu, Audrey Brown, Nilu Agarwal, Amanda Dove, Diptiman Chanda, Karthik Gopalakrishnan, Kathy Nugent, Wink Crittenden, Amy Jones, Karen Bernard and Shawnda Jones. Not pictured: Nadia Cantu and Anita Estis.

Year in Snapshots





