Discovery Park

Key Points

Discovery Park is Purdue's interdisciplinary research, enterprise and education complex that brings together experts from a wide range of specialties. The innovative Discovery Park concept fosters a synergy of faculty, staff, students, business and industry for the exploration of new ideas, technologies and products. Discovery Park’s Centers facilitate the development of large scale proposals and address grand challenge issues, such as healthcare delivery, alternative energy solutions, personalized medicine, big data, and homeland security.

Partnerships

Discovery Park is built on partnerships - from the visionary administrators and faculty members who together crafted the original proposal for Discovery Park - to Lilly Endowment who partnered in that vision by providing funds for its development - to today’s academic, corporate, and community partners who have profoundly impacted the Discovery to Delivery landscape. The activities and events outlined here provide a snapshot of the types of collaborations and partnerships that have contributed to the success of the Discovery Park mission.

- The Discovery Park Undergraduate Research Program places approximately 130 undergraduate students in Discovery Park research laboratories each year.

- The George E. Brown, Jr. Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES), funded by the National Science Foundation, is led by Purdue and involves experimental facilities at universities across the country as well as its cyber infrastructure with online simulation tool. The collaborative research project enables engineers and scientists to develop effective ways of mitigating earthquake and tsunami destruction using improved design, materials, construction techniques and monitoring. The work of NEES is to advance earthquake engineering education and research, and to contribute to rendering global communities more resilient to natural disasters.

- U.S.-China EcoPartnership for Environmental Sustainability (USCEES) was established by the U.S. State Department with the primary focus of addressing environmental challenges that are common to both the United States and China. The USCEES brings together leaders from academic, government and business spheres to develop and apply innovative, solutions-oriented approaches to help move the trajectory of our nations, and the world, toward sustainable management of our natural resources and living environment in the face of our common vulnerability to climate and land use change.

- The IU Health Arnett – Oncological Sciences Center Medical Research Advocate Program brings together participants in the research process with a focus on educating, supporting and connecting patient advocates with the medical research community through a partnership with the Research Advocacy Network (RAN), a nonprofit organization.

- The Network for Photovoltaic Technology (NPT) is a unique venue for industry-directed, university research. The NPT includes seven member companies: Applied Materials, First Solar, IBM, Nexans, ABB, Bosch and Tokyo Electron.
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**Impact**

Discovery Park was launched in August 2001 with a $26 million grant from the Lilly Endowment. These funds supported the activities of Discovery Park, helped attract top faculty, and initiated new projects. Discovery Park programs were further supported by the Lilly Endowment with a $25 million grant in February 2005. To date, Discovery Park economic impact includes:

- 57 new companies seeded and/or assisted.
- 164 current jobs in Discovery Park.
- Over 40 strategic global partnerships.
- 371 disclosures, licenses/options on intellectual property created within Discovery Park.
- $771.7 million in externally sponsored research to Discovery Park Centers, $83.9 million in 2012-13.
- 211,500 hours of work provided by 540 students to 190 Indiana start-up companies as part of the Interns for Indiana (IfI) program.
- More than 1,300 students have received the Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Recipients have come from every college and have an average cumulative GPA over 3.0. In the future 81% expect to be involved in a start-up.
- Approximately 5,000 students have participated in entrepreneurial activities since the inception of Discovery Park.

Discovery Park is educating leaders for tomorrow and hiring and retaining the brightest minds in the state of Indiana. Discovery Park is speeding up new inventions and accelerating technology commercialization that is creating high-tech industry in the state of Indiana. The activities have had tremendous economic impact in shaping Indiana’s future.

**Sponsored Research Awards**

Since its inception, over 4,000 research proposals have been submitted through Discovery Park, resulting in 2,372 awards totaling $771.4 million.

**Centers**

Discovery Park is Purdue's engine for interdisciplinary research, providing world-class resources and intellectual access to creative minds. There are currently ten core centers in Discovery Park and numerous interdisciplinary sponsored project centers.

**Core Centers:**
- Bindley Bioscience Center
- Birck Nanotechnology Center
- Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship
- Center for Predictive Materials and Devices (c-PRIMED)
- Discovery Learning Research Center
- Global Sustainability Institute
  - Center for the Environment
  - Energy Center
  - Purdue Climate Change Research Center
  - Center for Global Food Security
  - Purdue Water Community
- Cyber Center
- Oncological Sciences Center
- Purdue Center for Drug Discovery
- Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Engineering

**Sponsored Project Centers:**
- Center for Advanced Instrumentation Development (CAID)
- Center for Direct Catalytic Conversion of Biomass to Biofuels (C3Bio)
- George E. Brown Jr. Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES)
- Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute
- Network for Computational Nanotechnology (NCN)
- Purdue Homeland Security Institute
- USDOT Region V Regional University Transportation Center (NEXTRANS)
- Visual Analytics for Command, Control and Interoperability Environments
- Women's Global Health Institute

[www.purdue.edu/discoverypark](http://www.purdue.edu/discoverypark)