

PURDUE UNIVERSITY



TRANSFORMING HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY FOR INNOVATION



Rectors from some of the 19 participating universities in the state of Antioquia, staff from the U.S. Embassy Bogota, program directors from Ruta N, and course leaders from Purdue and its partners reviewed progress and planned follow-up activities for the Management of Innovation in Higher Education program (GIES in Spanish).

MANAGEMENT OF INNOVATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION (GIES)

Communities, companies and nations recognize that innovation ecosystems developing in and around U.S. research universities are transforming and accelerating the translation of research discoveries into innovative products and processes for the benefit of society. Government and industry would like to build on that trajectory and are pursuing ways to access the academic model to increase innovation within their organizations.

As part of the land-grant university mission of research, teaching and service, Purdue University has developed an effective innovation ecosystem. For a third year in a row, Purdue posted record-breaking numbers in commercialization activities which is illustrated in the graphic to the right. Faculty and staff at Purdue have created an entrepreneurial culture that integrates corporate knowledge, processes and lessons learned that can be shared in local contexts to advance innovation and entrepreneurship. Many universities in Antioquia, Colombia are seeking to develop local innovation ecosystems by improving their educational programs, expanding the impact of their research and increasing technology transfer and entrepreneurship in their regions.

To assist with advancing innovation in higher education with our Colombian partners, Purdue developed and presented a Management of Innovation in Higher Education (GIES) program in partnership with two small businesses, WOMA and Opinno. Ruta N, the regional commercialization organization for Medellin, sponsored GIES as a component of their Innovacampus program which aims to increase the scope and interconnection of education, research and corporate partnerships.

GIES, a six-month program, attracted and accomplished the following:

- ▶ Over 450 participants from 19 universities, organized into teams of innovators and innovation managers from each university. They attended lectures and interactive sessions aimed at building capabilities for defining and evaluating innovative projects.
- ▶ Purdue facilitated sessions with each university to define a number of potential projects related to educational, research and/or commercialization programs.

Purdue University faculty and staff continue to collaborate with universities on the implementation of the priority projects and look forward to developing additional local innovation ecosystems with their partners in Colombia.

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