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Infrastructure to Support Linking PA Biotech Companies, Faculty, Students and Alumni through Lehigh's Integrated Product Development (IPD) and Bioengineering Programs

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Abstract

The IPD and Bioengineering faculty team is requesting funding to support infrastructure (people, equipment and seed funding) that is needed to link PA companies with undergraduate and graduate students involved in new product development in biomedical and health engineering. Funding is requested for the following: 1) equipment to be used by students and PA companies, 2) student entrepreneurial project seed money, 3) project support for student interactions with PA start-ups, 4) materials and 5) travel. Currently, IPD/IBE/DA has 20 sponsoring companies, including 13 Commonwealth companies that provide financial support for year 2003 IPD projects, three new small ventures that financially support projects with internal Lehigh funds, and four student entrepreneurial projects with funding provided by the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA). Government partners include Ben Franklin Technology Partners, the Small Business Development Center, the Manufacturing Resource Center, the US Department of Labor and the US Department of Education. Non-profit partners include the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA) and the Kauffman Foundation for Entrepreneurial Leadership.