

## **COP-031**

Linking Entrepreneurially-Oriented Students with Pennsylvania Companies

### **Todd A. Watkins**

Director, Institute for the Study of Regional Political Economy and Associate Professor of Economics, College of Business & Economics, Lehigh University

### **John B Ochs**

IPD Program Director and Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Mechanics  
Lehigh University

### **Pat Costa**

Professor of Practice, IPD Industrial Liaison, Lehigh University

### **Lisa Getzler-Linn**

IPD Academic Projects Manager, Lehigh University

### **Abstract**

The IPD faculty and staff team requested funding to support summer internships for undergraduates to work with PA companies involved in new product development through the IPD, Integrated Business and Engineering (IBE) and Bio Engineering programs. The PITA funding links students and faculty from the College of Business and Economics, Bioengineering and Integrated Product Development, and the PC Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Sciences with the Ben Franklin Technology Partners, the Small Business Development Center and the Life Sciences Greenhouse to support students working with PA companies as part of their capstone courses using the resources of Lehigh's new student project center, the Wilbur Powerhouse.

In specific terms, this funding will affect ten undergraduates involved in the year '05 IPD and IBE capstone courses. Ten undergraduates will work with start-up and existing technology firms, with the objective to have these students stay and invent in Pennsylvania after they graduate. Leveraged funding for this PITA project comes from the PA companies engaged in the Year '05 IPD capstone projects.