Scientists call it the “funding gap” — the chasm between public investment in basic science and private investment in applied technologies. For decades, American innovators have labored to move our most exciting new medical discoveries across this divide, from lab bench to marketplace.

The University of Michigan’s new Life Sciences Innovation Partnership is joining with savvy business professionals and forward-looking donors to close the gap and commercialize the robust scientific knowledge of one of the world’s great public universities. Working together, we can translate promising laboratory discoveries into valuable new diagnostics and treatments for neurodegenerative disease, diabetes and cancer.

How it works

As a global leader in collaborative, interdisciplinary research, the University of Michigan’s Life Sciences Institute (LSI) draws on experts from a broad spectrum of fields — including medicine, pharmacy, public health, chemistry, biology, business and public policy — to understand and improve human health.

Under the leadership of LSI director and renowned diabetes researcher Alan Saltiel, a board drawn from the Institute’s national advisory council of business executives and venture capitalists evaluates commercialization proposals from Michigan’s innovative life scientists.

The board applies stringent selection criteria to all proposed projects:

- Novelty and importance of the discovery
- Unavailability of funding from traditional sources
- Medical need for the resulting technology
- Commercialization potential
- Market feasibility

The Partnership not only finances new projects, but also provides access to a network of specialized resources from U-M’s Office of Technology Transfer and world-renowned Stephen M. Ross School of Business, among others. Each project’s progress is monitored past concrete milestones toward the ultimate goals of market entry and medical application.

Once a technology successfully moves downstream, the LSI reinvests its share of all royalties and license fees from the resulting intellectual property into the Partnership, increasing future support capabilities and sustaining the power of your philanthropy.

How you make it happen

When you make a major gift to the Life Sciences Innovation Partnership, you join leading members of the country’s business and venture capital community in the effort to close the funding gap and release the potential of one of the world’s most dynamic life sciences programs. Become a member of the Life Sciences Innovation Partnership: help us close the gap and translate great life sciences research into real medical innovation.

For more information please contact the LSI development office: 734-615-4862 or LSIdonors@umich.edu

The Life Sciences Institute ~ 210 Washtenaw Avenue ~ Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2216 ~ http://lsi.umich.edu
**LIFE SCIENCES INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Bridging the gap in the life sciences research pathway.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Background</strong></td>
<td>Advances in basic science lead to healthcare innovations, including the creation of new drugs and other therapeutics. But these discoveries too frequently languish for want of the capital required to move them from lab bench to bedside. There is presently a funding gap in the research pathway between activities funded by the NIH and those funded by venture capital. The Life Sciences Innovation Partnership funds and nurtures the most promising projects towards commercialization.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Disease Focus</strong></td>
<td>Neurodegenerative disease, diabetes and cancer.</td>
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</table>
| **Operation**                                  | Projects will be approved and their progress toward key milestones monitored by a board, comprised of venture capitalists and business executives with experience in managing scientific enterprises. This group will be headed by the LSI Director. New proposals will be selected in light of the following criteria:  
  • Novelty and importance  
  • Lack of alternative funding  
  • Unmet medical need  
  • Commercialization potential  
  • Market feasibility  
  Preference will be given to collaborative efforts that draw on expertise from multiple U-M programs, departments or schools. Approved projects will also benefit from access to expertise and specialized resources from the U-M’s Stephen M. Ross School of Business, Office of Technology Transfer, and other units. |
| **Intellectual Property**                      | Royalties and license fees earned as a result of IP generated from the funded research will be reinvested in the Partnership to sustain and enhance new project funding. The LSI share of these payments will be directed to the fund. |
| **Donors**                                     | • May direct contributions to research on one of the abovementioned diseases.  
  • Will receive the full tax benefits of a charitable donation.  
  • Will be offered opportunities to interact with project faculty and receive detailed progress reports.  
  - **Founder** $1,000,000+  
  - **Benefactor** $500,000–$999,999  
  - **Patron** $250,000–$499,999  
  - **Sponsor** $100,000–$249,999 |
| **Target size**                                 | $10 million initial goal. |