

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025
RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE MEETING

Reginald A. Wilkinson, vice chair
Juan Jose Perez
Bradley R. Kastan
Joshua H.B. Kerner
Phillip Popovich
John W. Zeiger (*ex officio*)

Location: Mount Leadership Room, Longaberger Alumni House
2200 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, OH 43210

Time: 2:30-4:00 p.m.

Public Session

2:30-3:10 p.m.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. *Ohio State's Research and Development Expenditures Highlights for FY2024 – Dr. Peter Mohler* 2:30-2:50 p.m.
2. *Keenan Center for Entrepreneurship: Boosting Student Engagement in Entrepreneurial Activities – Ms. Cheryl Turnbull, Mr. Jonah Mikesell* 2:50-3:05 p.m.

ITEM FOR ACTION

3. Approval of December 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes – Dr. Reginald Wilkinson 3:05-3:10 p.m.

Executive Session

3:10-4:00 p.m.

The Ohio State University Annual Research Report

Research and Development Expenditures Highlights for FY2024



Ohio State partners with OpenAI



Open AI launched NextGenAI, a first-of-its-kind consortium with 15 leading research institutions dedicated to using AI to accelerate research breakthroughs and transform education.

Founding partners include: Caltech, Duke University, University of Georgia, Harvard University, Howard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Oxford, Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po), and Boston Children’s Hospital.

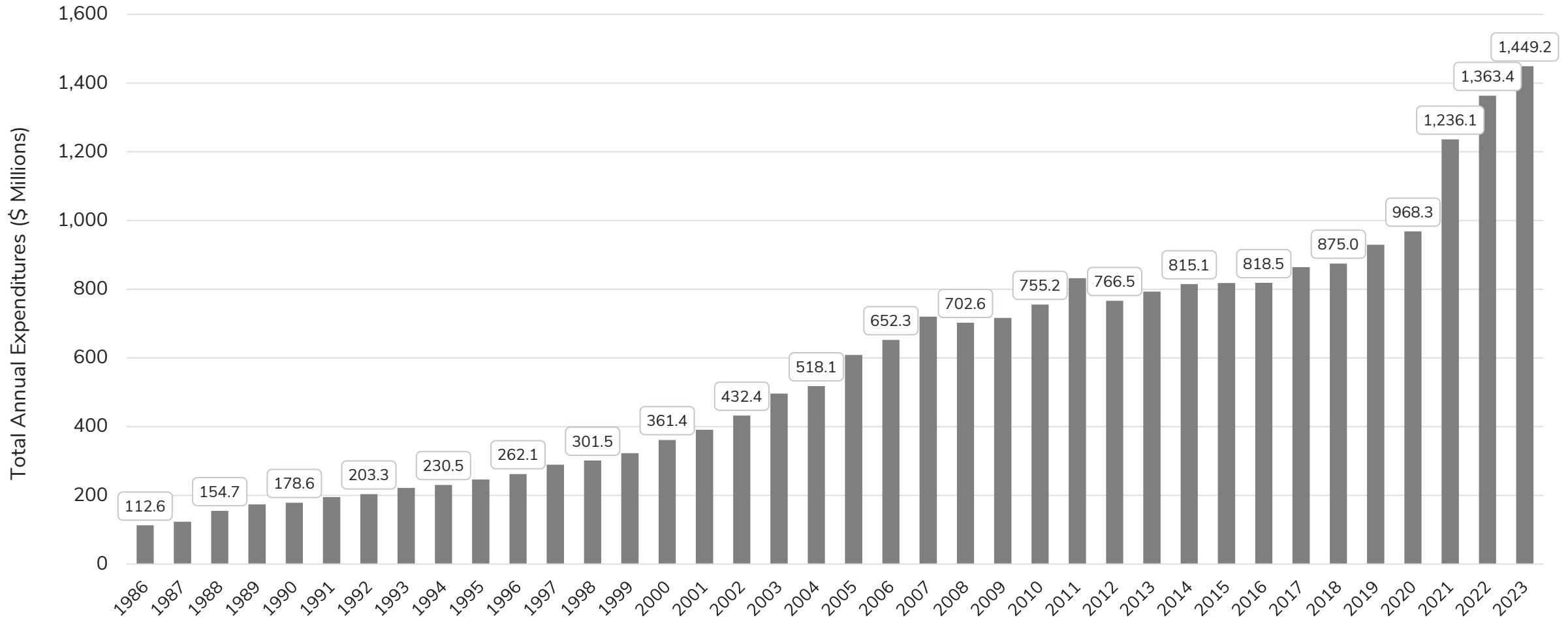
Through this partnership, we will continue to **leverage AI to accelerate advancements** in digital health, advanced therapeutics, manufacturing, energy, mobility, and agriculture, while also allowing educators to use AI to create advanced learning models.

Ohio State sets R&D expenditures record for FY23

\$1.449 Billion

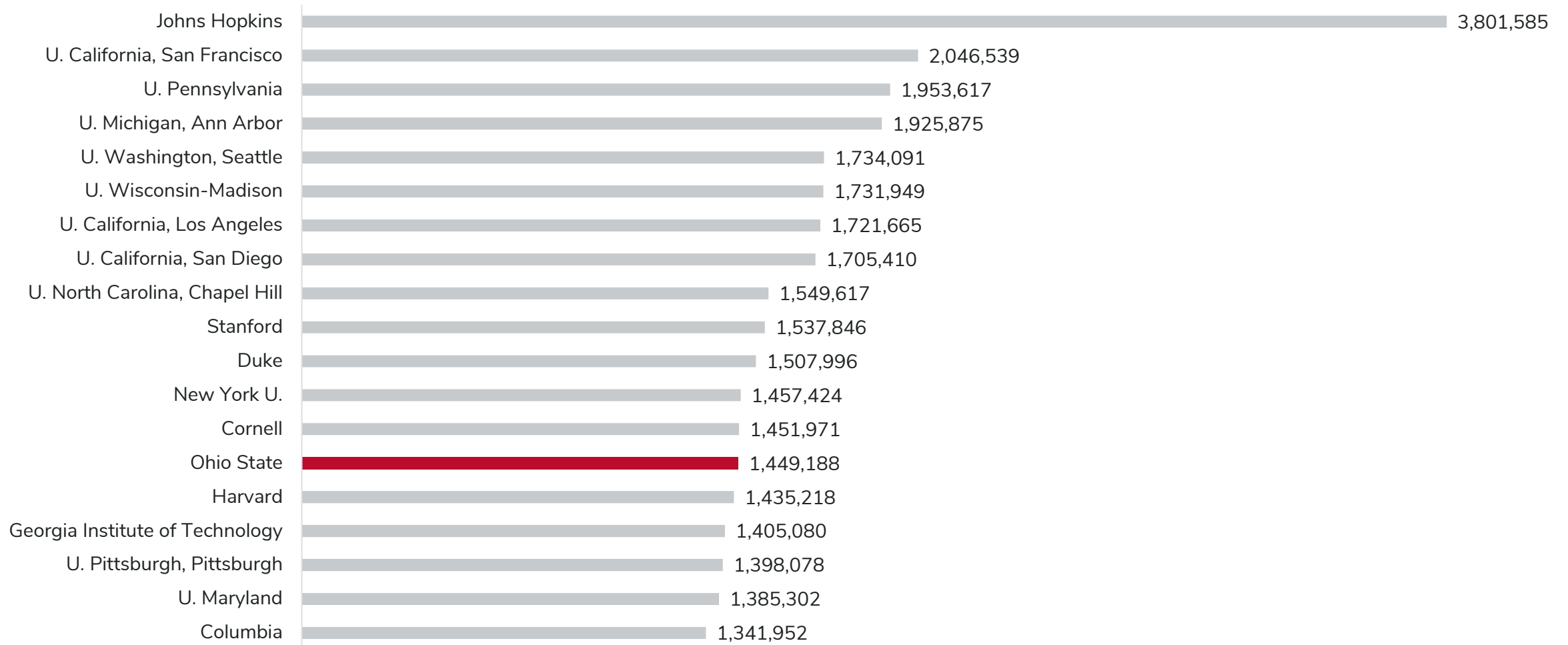
Ohio State Total HERD R&D Expenditures

Fiscal years 1986 - 2023



NSF HERD Survey Rankings – FY23

Total R&D expenditures across all institutions



Tim and Kathleen Keenan Center for Entrepreneurship

Cheryl Turnbull, Senior Director, Keenan Center for Entrepreneurship



The hub for Ohio State's student entrepreneurship community

The Tim & Kathleen Keenan Center for Entrepreneurship's mission is to inspire, engage and empower student entrepreneurs in their endeavors to change the world. The center does this by providing educational and experiential learning activities, supporting curiosity and exploration, and building connections and community.

604

Unique Students Served
(162 students involved
in 2 or more programs)

46%

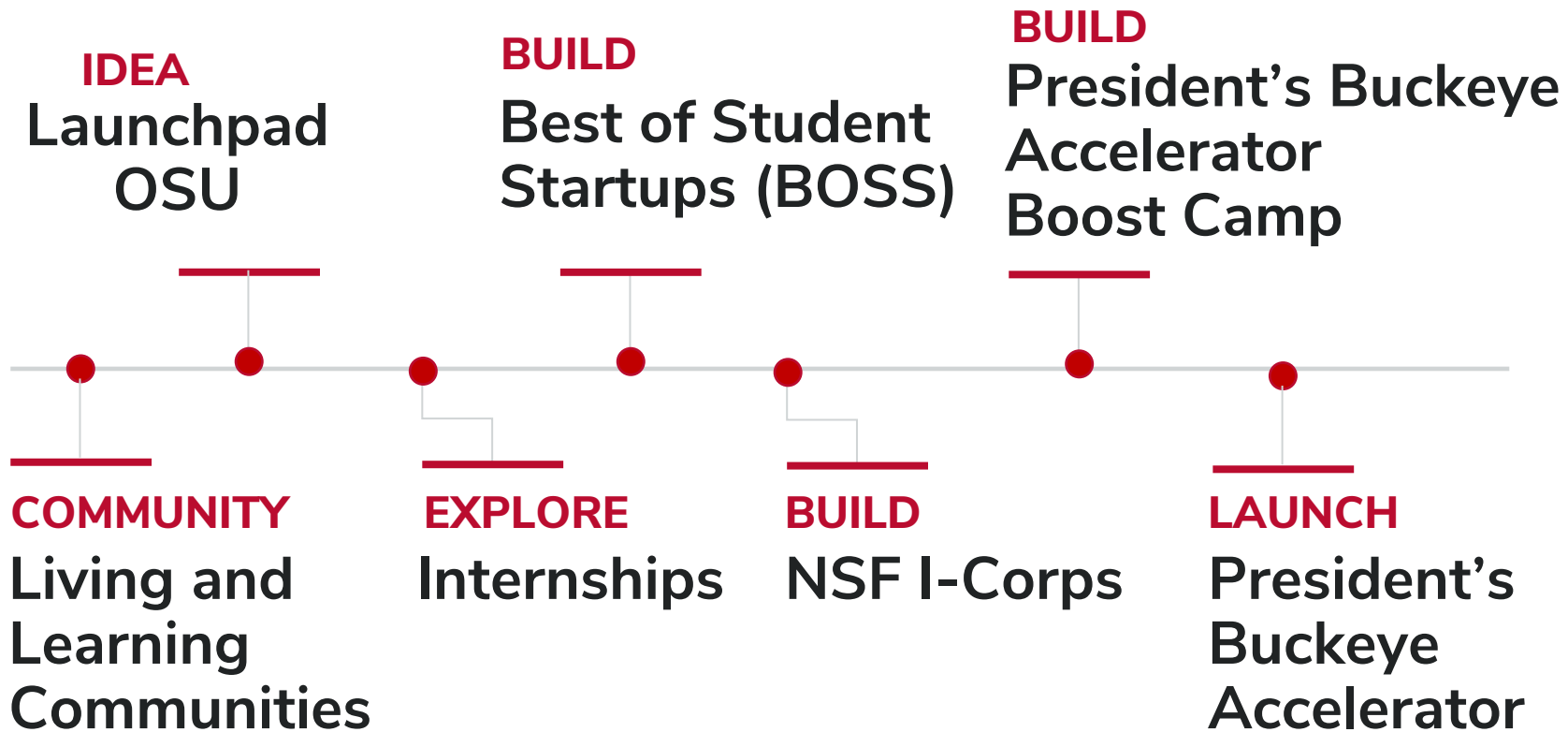
Year/Year Increase
in Students Served
with Programming

11

Colleges
Engaged

Data from July – Dec 2024

Empowering student entrepreneurs – from idea to launch

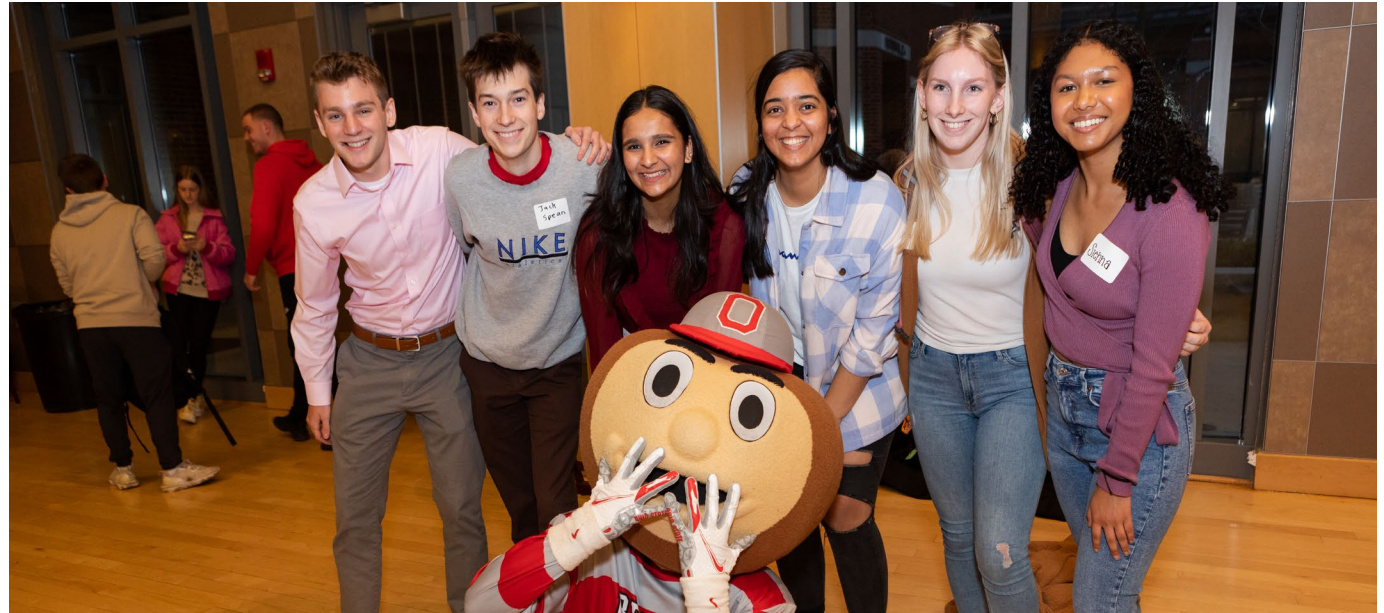


New Student Entrepreneurs' Center



Community Living Learning Experiences

Entrepreneurship and
Innovation Scholars



250+ First Year Applicants

72 First Year Students
Accepted (Capped)

23 Academic Programs
Represented



Idea

LaunchpadOSU

A student-run startup weekend that ignites ideation and fosters team building to support new business creation

Welcomed **100** participants to LaunchpadOSU 2024 (capped)

- **71%** YOY growth in student applications
- **9** colleges represented



Explore Wheeler and Wolstein Internship Programs

- Scholarship funding for undergraduate and graduate students for summer internships with startup companies and small businesses
- Students benefit from experiential learning, industry insights, and networking opportunities
- **>\$118,000** student scholarships in FY25



Students gained practical work experience through the Wheeler and Wolstein Internship Program.

Photo: The Ohio State University

Aug 15, 2024

Ohio State students gain work experience through summer internships

Wheeler and Wolstein program connects students with central Ohio firms



Chris Bournea

Ohio State News
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Students in a variety of majors gained practical work experience this summer by participating in the [Wheeler and Wolstein Internship Program](#). The students made presentations highlighting the projects they worked on at central Ohio companies during an Aug. 9 event at The Ohio State University's Student Entrepreneurs' Center, home of the Keenan Center for Entrepreneurship.

The program provides scholarship funding to undergraduate and graduate students in internships with startup companies and small businesses. Students are matched with organizations offering project-based internships throughout Ohio State's summer term (May-August).



Students shared what they learned through the internship program.

"This is an exciting program for us because it gives students an opportunity for real world work experiences and to do some fun things," said Cheryl Turnbull, senior director of Ohio State's [Keenan Center for Entrepreneurship](#), a campus-wide hub for the development of student entrepreneurs and part of Ohio State's Enterprise for Research, Innovation and Knowledge.

The Wheeler and Wolstein Internship Program is funded by contributions from the late Tom Wheeler, an industrial engineer and Ohio State alumnus, and the Bert and Iris Wolstein Foundation.

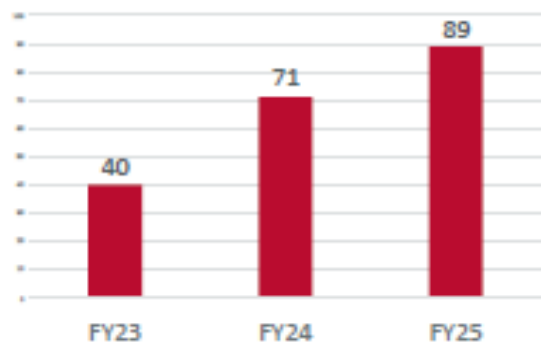
"The dollars that they give go 100% to allowing students to have an internship that our startup

companies and small businesses don't have to pay for," Turnbull said. "It's a win-win for our companies and for our students. Students get a great experience, and the companies have access to this awesome talent."

Build Best of Student Startups (BOSS)

Supports student entrepreneurs with interactive workshops, culminating in a business pitch competition

Ventures Supported



Joan & Chester Luby Microgrant \$100,000

Enabled the expansion of BOSS programming and increase in prize amounts for our students. This past year we were able to include two new BOSS programs aimed at space ventures and student-athletes.



Build NSF I-Corps

Immersive entrepreneurial training program designed to prepare researchers to focus beyond the university laboratory and explore market opportunities.



First Year

**69 Participants
across 4 cohorts**

**6 Colleges +
OSUWMC +
Nationwide
Children's**

Build Boost Camp

A semester-long program that encourages the development of sustainable businesses while building on existing customer validation work.



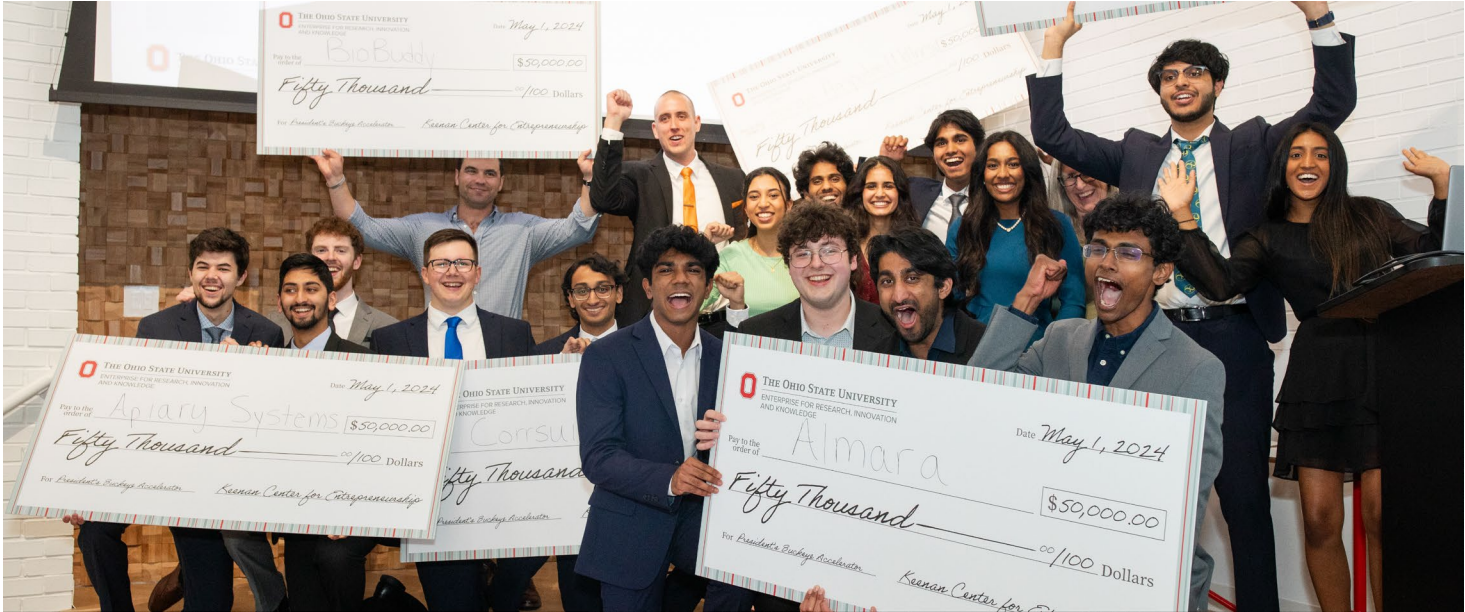
50 Teams

**For-credit option
available**

**Eligible toward the
newly launched
Entrepreneurship
Minor**

Launch President's Buckeye Accelerator

\$50,000 awarded to six student ventures along with a structured process and deep mentorship to help students launch their business



Tim and Kathleen Keenan

The Keenan family's support has been pivotal to the center's achievements. Tim Keenan is a frequent visitor to campus and plays an active role in championing both the center and our students.





Student Entrepreneur Jonah Mikesell



PHOENIX BATTERY CO.



Follow on LinkedIn

Thank you!

Let's stay connected – #BuiltByBuckeyes

Cheryl Turnbull

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SUMMARY OF ACTONS TAKEN

December 17, 2024 – Research, Innovation & Strategic Partnerships Committee Meeting

Members Present:

Lewis Von Thaer
Reginald A. Wilkinson

Juan Jose Perez
Bradley R. Kastan

John W. Zeiger (ex officio)

Members Present via Zoom:

Joshua H.B. Kerner, Phillip Popovich

Members Absent: N/A

PUBLIC SESSION

The Research, Innovation and Strategic Partnerships Committee of The Ohio State University Board of Trustees convened on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, virtually and in person at Longaberger Alumni House on the Columbus campus. Committee Chair Lewis Von Thaer called the meeting to order at 1:26 p.m.

Items for Discussion:

1. Quarterly Highlights for Research, Innovation and Knowledge: Executive vice president for the Enterprise for Research, Innovation and Knowledge Peter Mohler opened the committee meeting by highlighting research and innovation highlights from the last quarter. These included updates on the innovation district, a new partnership with the City of Columbus and Rev1 to further build out space for software innovators, and the National Science Foundation-supported National Extreme Ultrafast Science Facility, or NeXUS, which is a resource for scientists across the United States.

(See Attachment X for background information, page XX)

2. Ohio State Innovation Highlights: Dr. Mohler then transitioned to presentations from two Ohio State researchers with significant accomplishments in the innovation space.

Dr. Kotaro Nakanishi, professor in the College of Arts and Sciences' Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, discussed his research in RNAi-based medicine. These groundbreaking treatments are designed to deactivate specific genes associated with diseases, effectively halting the production of harmful proteins. While this technology can be applied to treat a broad set of diseases and conditions, an early focus is Argonaute syndrome. Dr. Nakanishi is also co-founder of the startup City Therapeutics, which launched in October with \$135 million in financing.



Then, Dr. Anil Parwani, chair of the Department of Pathology in the College of Medicine, discussed his transformative research focused on digital pathology for cancer diagnostics. This tool translates tissue samples into digital images that can then be analyzed with the help of machine learning to produce automated diagnoses for patients from across the globe. Ohio State is a national leader in this area.

(See Attachment X for background information, page XX)

Item for Action:

3. Approval of August 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes: No changes were requested to the August 22, 2024, meeting minutes; therefore, a formal vote was not required, and the minutes were considered approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Von Thaer and seconded by Mr. Kastan that the committee recess into executive session to consider business-sensitive trade secrets required to be kept confidential by federal and state statutes.

A roll-call vote was taken, and the committee voted to move into executive session with the following members present and voting: Mr. Von Thaer, Dr. Wilkinson, Mr. Perez, Mr. Kastan, Mr. Kerner, Dr. Popovich and Mr. Zeiger.

The committee entered executive session at 2:03 p.m., and the meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.