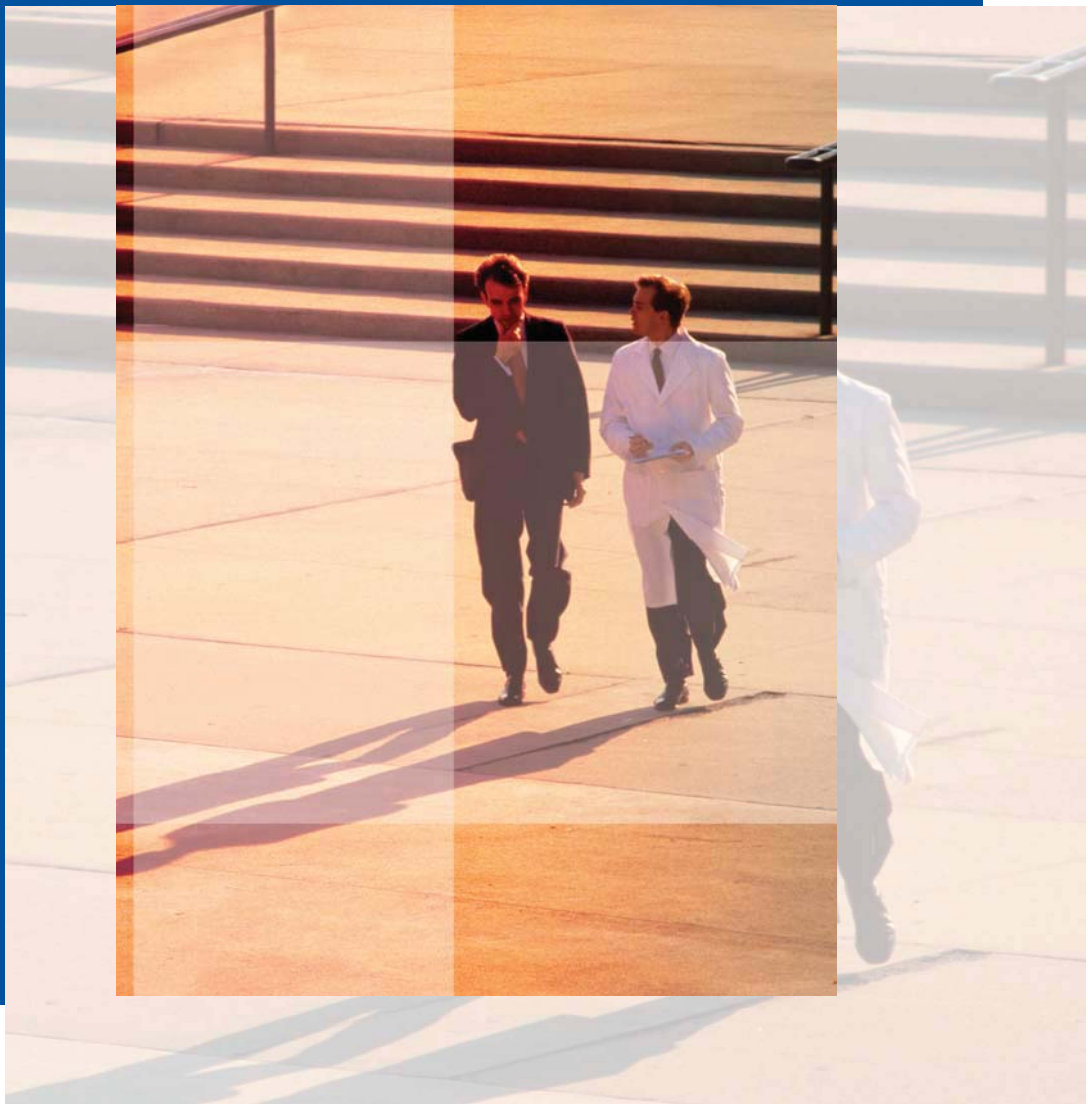


*Collaboration for Innovation*



# Collaboration for Innovation

Companies use innovation to develop new products and expand markets. One of the keys to innovation is access to new ideas and technologies.

The University of Kansas (KU), a nationally recognized research university, is home to basic and applied research in biosciences, information technologies, and advanced manufacturing.

KU collaborates with companies on a broad spectrum of research projects, including:

- Sample testing and analysis
- Problem solving and process improvement
- Early-stage prototype development
- New technology platforms

The KU Center for Research, Inc. is the primary contact for helping companies collaborate with university researchers. Our office can help you:

- Identify researchers
- Initiate projects
- Finalize proposals, agreements, and contracts
- Protect intellectual property
- Commercialize technology



## Overview

Collaborative research at KU typically involves one or more companies working together with one or more KU researchers on a technical research project.

The parties work together to define a scope of work, timeline, necessary resources, and deliverables. Projects can be short-term, multi-phase, or broad-based.

Each project has a KU principal investigator who is responsible for managing KU's role in performing the research. Projects may include multiple faculty, staff researchers, and students.

Depending on the scope of work, appropriate agreements are used to protect confidentiality, intellectual property, and publication rights.

## Benefits

### *Potential for innovation*

Collaborative research projects represent a broad range of technical applications. Projects potentially generate innovation in the form of technical problem solving, process improvement, new product development, and breakthrough ideas.

### *Future employees*

For many projects, students work under the supervision of KU researchers. Companies can develop relationships with students and identify future employees who are already familiar with industrial research.

### *Cost-effectiveness*

Few companies can afford to maintain world-class R&D facilities and staff. Collaborative research projects allow companies to access expertise and labs on an as-needed basis.

### *Long-term relationships*

Collaborative research projects can lead to long-term relationships in which companies and researchers work together on a wide variety of ideas, topics, and problems.

## **Examples of recent collaborative research projects**

**Company A** worked with researchers at KU's departments of Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Chemistry on development of new glucose and glutamate sensors used in lab animals to improve the development of drugs to help treat human neurological disorders. The research is helping the company improve its current product offering.

**Company B** teamed with researchers at the Information and Telecommunication Technology Center at KU to conduct high performance computing analyses of company's research data sets to help better understand the nutritional benefits of the company's pet foods.

**Company C** collaborated with researchers at KU's Radio Frequency IDentification (RFID) Alliance Lab to evaluate and test RFID systems the company was interested in implementing. The KU research helped validate the company's concerns with the RFID technologies and they chose not to implement any of the selected systems.

For more examples please visit [www.outreach.ku.edu](http://www.outreach.ku.edu).

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