

## CONTACT US

Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust  
P.O. Box 363475  
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-3475

355 FD Roosevelt Ave.  
Suite 101  
Hato Rey, Puerto Rico 00918

Phone: 787-523-1592

Fax: 787-523-1599

Email: [info@prsciencetrust.org](mailto:info@prsciencetrust.org)

PUERTO RICO | SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY  
& RESEARCH TRUST

Leading Puerto Rico towards a knowledge-based economy



Medical Center

Cancer Research Center

Science City

University of Puerto Rico's Botanical Garden

Molecular Sciences Complex

Metropolitan University

University of Puerto Rico Río Piedras Campus

University of Puerto Rico's Botanical Garden

**A NEW KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMIC CLUSTER AWAITS YOU.**  
A new economic paradise awaits you. Puerto Rico is rapidly becoming one of the most attractive destinations in the World to conduct business within the global knowledge economy. Read on and find out why.

## A CATALYST FOR TECHNOLOGY BASED ECONOMIC CHANGE IN THE CARIBBEAN.

### WHO WE ARE

By providing and supporting programs, capital and infrastructure that supports research and the commercialization of research, the Technology Trust has become a catalyst for economic development in Puerto Rico.

One of the Technology Trust's principal goals is to fuel economic growth and innovation by directly supporting and advancing Puerto Rico's growing research and development sector and the innovations that are created.

Through steering public policy, investment in research and commercialization of research, The Technology Trust strengthens and expands the Island's participation in the global knowledge-based economy. It does this by attracting and retaining scientific talent, transferring technology developed by our researchers, as well as providing capital and programs for new technology based companies.



### WHAT WE DO

- Create jobs by financing science and innovation
- Define and implement public policy for science, technology and R&D in Puerto Rico
- Attract world-class scientists to the Island
- Establish alliances between public and private sectors that foster research and the commercialization of research
- Provide Technology Transfer Services for public and private universities as well as companies
- Procure direct investments and business assistance for start-up companies
- Develop Puerto Rico's state-of-the-art Science City

### WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU

Puerto Rico is tailor-made to address the needs of today's most advanced research and development initiatives. We offer ready-made opportunities and synergies that are attracting top scientists and new technology-based companies.

We are highly organized when it comes to negotiating with companies looking to bring new businesses. Potential partners find this kind of efficiency appealing. Also, enterprises appreciate the Commonwealth's win-win combination of experienced labor, respect for intellectual property, and, of course, its generous tax incentives.

What's more, we have also made a number of investments to foster the development of the research and technology industry in Puerto Rico. The foundation and infrastructure being laid is grounded not only in manufacturing, but also in establishing a world-class research and development base on the island. Your business is guaranteed to be up and running in no time!



### ADDED PERKS

There are many benefits to conducting research and creating start-ups in Puerto Rico. As an autonomous U.S. Commonwealth, researchers and entrepreneurs enjoy the protection and security of U.S. intellectual property laws, as well as a familiar federal regulatory environment with entities such as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Our beautiful tropical setting takes the cake and also favors research: the average temperature is about 80 degrees Fahrenheit all year long; our picture-perfect beaches are home to some of the most impressive coral reefs in the world; and the abundance of tropical flora and fauna is never too far away.

### KEY R&D AREAS

Through its research grants and in-kind business assistance for start-ups, the Technology Trust continues to build up its capacity in:

- Computer Science and Information Technologies
- Electronics, Aerospace and Aeronautics
- Alternative and Sustainable Energy
- Life Sciences
- Food, Agriculture and Environmental Science
- New Industrial Technologies

### TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT TARGETS

The Technology Trust invests in the development and commercialization of technologies of strategic interest to Puerto Rico, such as:

- Cloud Computing, Gaming and Animation
- Bioinformatics and Tele-Medicine
- Aerospace Systems and Process Engineering
- Tropical and Sustainable Agriculture
- Water Purification and Remediation
- Specialty and Advanced Materials (including Nanotechnology)



## GRANTS AND FOUNDATIONS SUPPORT OFFICE

The Technology Trust's Grants and Foundations Support Office provides economic assistance for public and private educational institutions, hospitals, non-profit organizations, early stage technology-based companies, and local government entities. By doing so, we increase the amount of funds running on the Island, as well as expand funding options for research and commercialization in many technology fields.



## EXPANDING FUNDING OPTIONS

Following are examples of programs supported by The Technology Trust's Grants and Foundation Office:

- 🌟 We partnered with and provided matching funds to the Puerto Rico Small Business Technology Development Corporation at the Universidad Interamericana de Puerto Rico for a program that provides financial and managerial assistance for start-up companies to assist them in applying for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grants from the Federal Government.
- 🌟 We provide free confidential technical review services for institutions in Puerto Rico that apply for very large and complex grants from the Federal government.
- 🌟 In partnership with the University of Puerto Rico (UPR), The Technology Trust has attracted and retained top researchers at the UPR through the Centenary Fund, such as Dr. Walter Frontera, former Dean of the School of Medicine.
- 🌟 We created a matching program similar to the Centenary Fund focused on retaining young Puerto Rican scientists and on fostering applied research in private universities: the Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship Program. The Program is funding research in many areas, such as aerospace, systems engineering, cancer research and agricultural biotechnology.

## DIRECT RESEARCH GRANTS

The Technology Trust defined three direct research grant programs by which it provides funds averaging \$100,000:

- 🌟 **Extension Grants Program** - Direct grants for senior researchers to support their hiring of post doctoral and/or graduate student(s) to extend current research that is likely to 1) receive additional public or private funding, and 2) make a solid step towards commercialization. Besides furthering research, our Extension Grants are targeted to fill another need identified by Puerto Rico's researchers – funding for advanced degree students to be mentored by a senior researcher. One example is the Post-doctoral Research Fellowship Program.
- 🌟 **Multi Grants Program** - Direct grants for researchers at different career stages to encourage multi-disciplinary and/or multi-institutional research projects. These are not provided just to foster interaction within Puerto Rico's research community, they are also administered for boosting collaboration between the Island's research communities and those in other geographic areas (particularly, Latin America, China and the United States).
- 🌟 **Strategic Research Grants Program** - Direct grants used to further research areas that the Trust and its team of advisors view to be particularly in need of additional resources or that provide a unique and positive opportunity for developing Puerto Rico's science and technology economy. In order to steer local efforts in the bioinformatics field, the Trust outlined the importance of Puerto Rico investing in this research field and its related areas, such as health care informatics, during the reading of its "Proclama de la Semana de la Biociencia" (Proclamation of the Bioscience Week in 2010).



### STIMULATING IDEAS, INVENTIONS AND DISCOVERIES

The Technology Trust's Technology Transfer Office (TTO) is a key resource for a wide variety of public, private, non-profit and governmental entities and assists technology transfer in multiple industries. Services include:

- Training for researchers and administrators regarding the patent and trademark process, as well as the commercialization of university inventions
- Product evaluation through patent searches and due diligence of the technology and the inventions market
- Licensing for the corporations' patents
- Grants for additional research, development of prototypes and special projects help increase the value of the patents
- Start-up company formation to maximize the value of technologies and create jobs

### FUNDING COMPREHENSIVE PATENT AND VENTURE PROGRAMS

As an example of the TTO's efforts in this area, the Technology Trust announced its first significant support of a comprehensive technology transfer program at the 2010 annual meeting for PRTECH, a regional economic development organization in western Puerto Rico. The Technology Trust committed itself to funding a two-year program provided by PRTECH and the Universidad de Puerto Rico's Research and Development Center, Mayagüez campus, to train and mentor researchers regarding patents and the formation of ventures around those patents. The Mayagüez area is an important area for technology development and transfer and has accounted for approximately 40% of the patents received within Puerto Rico.



### PATENT PROTECTION

The Technology Transfer Office also provides training and financial resources for patent protection, thus significantly increasing the number of patents filed on intellectual property on the island.

To support its efforts, the Trust secured a multi-year financial support for the Universidad de Puerto Rico Law School program to train students in the many facets of intellectual property, and provide them with practical experience, while at the same time assisting small businesses.

The Trust also announced at the "Primer Simposio Industria-Academia sobre Energía Sustentable 2010" (First Industry-Academia Sustainable Energy 2010 Symposium) at the Universidad del Turabo, sponsored by Merck and other local organizations, providing research grants totaling up to \$125,000 for smart energy technologies. Such technologies utilize a broad range of engineering, computer science, environmental and other technologies.

### IN-KIND BUSINESS ASSISTANCE SERVICES FOR START-UPS

The Technology Trust offers a set of in-kind business assistant services, including intellectual property services, market research, regulatory advice and investment assistance for early stage companies that meet certain criteria. Upon receiving these services, companies are required a future repayment to the Trust and that they maintain operations in Puerto Rico. A failure to comply results in a significant penalty.

The Technology Trust also encourages angel investment networks within Puerto Rico, as well as making direct equity investments by qualifying companies by the Trust. The Technology Trust works to encourage and attract such sources of seed capital to the Island, which are important to the ultimate success of the development of new ventures.

THE TECHNOLOGY TRUST'S TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OFFICE STIMULATES THE MOVEMENT OF IDEAS, INVENTIONS AND DISCOVERIES OUT OF THE RESEARCH LAB, THROUGH THE PATENT OFFICE AND INTO THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR.



## RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF ACCOMPLISHED RESEARCHERS

The Technology Trust also manages the Centenary Fund, which provides financial support for the Universidad de Puerto Rico on a matching basis for several projects, including the Bioprocessing and Technology Development Center in Mayagüez and the Molecular Sciences Complex in Río Piedras, as well as another very important program that focuses on the recruitment and retention of accomplished researchers.

The Technology Trust is providing matching financial support of \$600,000 as part of the recruitment packages of two very senior medical researchers. In addition, the Technology Trust is supplying \$800,000 worth of financial support for the recruitment packages of two neuroscientists who recently joined the Universidad de Puerto Rico. The Trust also continues to identify recruitment and retention opportunities throughout the university's campuses.

## INDEPENDENT SOURCE DATA AND PUBLIC POLICY

The Technology Trust continues to take a more active role in public policy making. In order to do it, the Trust works closely with government agencies, opinion makers, as well as industry leaders and officials.

The Technology Trust gathers, analyzes and distributes data related to research and its commercialization. The information on the databases include:

- Governmental and private grants
- Technology-based companies
- Research projects and interests
- Annual "Status of the Knowledge-based Economy"

## KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY TRAINING AND EDUCATION

The Technology Trust has created a well-planned and lean administrative structure, adopting relevant modern best practices. It has also expanded its staff, including, among other positions, an internal auditor and a finance director, as well as additional staff for the Technology Transfer Office, Grants and Foundations Office and Research Programs to complement the work currently performed by the Executive Director and his staff. For Science City's development and marketing efforts, the Trust also engaged in hiring professional specialized services and potential full-time staffing.



## SCIENCE CITY

Enjoy the best of both worlds: state-of-the-art facilities within a vibrant, culturally rich, planned science campus.

### STATE-OF-THE-ART LIVING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Science City is completely dedicated to the advancement of knowledge and innovation. It is located on a 69.9 acre land parcel currently being developed as a state-of-the-art science center loaded with research and development facilities, commercial laboratories, as well as significant living and working amenities.

Science City will ultimately include:

- 1,000,000 square feet of laboratory and incubator space
- hotel and conference center
- office space
- civic center with school facilities
- museum and library
- commercial space
- more than 280,000 square feet of residential buildings and recreational areas
- beautifully landscaped open spaces

The University of Puerto Rico's Río Piedras Campus, the Botanical Gardens, the future Biomolecular Sciences building, the Medical Sciences campus, and the future UPR/MD Anderson Comprehensive Cancer Center (in all a total of 11 hospitals), will all be connected by Puerto Rico's new ultra modern urban train system and pedestrian promenades.

Along the research facilities, residential space is set to be developed, allowing researchers to practically walk to work. The urban setting also offers a vibrant cultural life, with museums, shopping, historic districts, and natural wonders just minutes away.

Science City is being developed to directly support the Technology Trust's mission. It is becoming an engine for economic development through research and commercialization. When we're asked what is being built at Science City, the answer is human capital. The buildings are simply the means to welcome such economic and cultural development.

### COLLABORATION WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

The Technology Trust is also in partnership with the Universidad de Puerto Rico's Comprehensive Cancer Center, a combined inpatient and clinical research center being developed in conjunction with the MD Anderson Cancer Center based in Houston, Texas.

The Cancer Center is being built contiguous to the Science City. Both organizations have collaborated in order to plan the building of a Science Boulevard that will connect Science City with the Cancer Center and, in turn, connect the Cancer Center with its neighboring medical hubs, Centro Médico and the UPR's Recinto de Ciencias Médicas.

This Boulevard will provide the type of accessibility that enables the sharing of research resources, which successful ingredients for a successful cluster.