

2022 - 2023

# Invent Penn State



## The Ingenious Power of Partnership

[invent.psu.edu](http://invent.psu.edu)

  
invent  
PENN STATE

# A statewide innovation ecosystem

**Cover image:**  
2022 Invent Penn State Summer Founders Program participants Kevin Lord Josue and Vaillant Domingue III founded Hey!, a first-of-its-kind, voice-only dating platform targeted at individuals who are least 18 years old.

...provides numerous startup and small business resources, affords alumni and corporate partners visibility into Penn State's intellectual property and affiliated startups, and offers strategic corporate engagement opportunities.



## Penn State Research Expenditures

2015-16	\$836M
2016-17	\$863M
2017-18	\$921M
2018-19	\$968M
2019-20	\$1.01B
2020-21	\$993.1M
2021-22	\$1.034B

**Total**  
**\$6.625B**

Research expenditures are reported on a fiscal year basis July-June.

Penn State Researchers  
**5,755**

Industry Projects Per Year  
**500 (avg)**

## 2015 - 2021 Technology Transfer Activity & Outcomes

**344** Patents Issued

**55** Licenses & Options

**38** Startup Licenses & Options

Technology transfer data are measured on a calendar year basis January to December.

The Penn State research and tech transfer data above was provided by the Office of Technology Management and reflects adjusted data as of Jan. 2023 and covers the span of the Invent Penn State initiative only.

Find a searchable showcase of Penn State's IP at [ipnavigator.psu.edu](http://ipnavigator.psu.edu)

" Invent Penn State exemplifies the University's land-grant mission by supporting the next generation of entrepreneurs, business owners, innovators and leaders to enrich Pennsylvania communities and enhance the impact of Penn State across the commonwealth and beyond. "

**Neeli Bendapudi**  
Penn State President



Find more resources at  
[resourcenavigator.psu.edu](http://resourcenavigator.psu.edu)

# A vibrant grassroots network of community-based innovation spaces

...provides early-stage startups the resources they need to de-risk their business and avoid common costly mistakes. Resources include accelerator programs, coworking space, legal and IP advice, makerspace, mentorship, access to funding and business advice.



- 1 Abington LaunchBox
- 2 Altoona LaunchBox supported by the Hite Family
- 3 Beaver Valley LaunchBox
- 4 Berks LaunchBox
- 5 Brandywine LaunchBox
- 6 Harrisburg LaunchBox
- 7 Corner LaunchBox
- 8 Fayette LaunchBox
- 9 Happy Valley LaunchBox powered by PNC Bank
- 10 Hazleton LaunchBox supported by Pasco L. Schiavo Esq.
- 11 James R. Meehl Innovation Commons
- 12 Lehigh Valley LaunchBox
- 13 LionLaunch (Schuylkill)
- 14 Mon Valley LaunchBox
- 15 Mont Alto LaunchBox
- 16 North Central PA LaunchBox
- 17 Great Valley LaunchBox
- 18 Scranton LaunchBox
- 19 Wilkes-Barre LaunchBox
- 20 Shenango LaunchBox powered by the Greater Sharon Community
- 21 York LaunchBox

## Stella Cho BeyondClass

BeyondClass is a centralized digital hub that provides college students easy and fair access to career and educational opportunities. This startup has participated in Happy Valley LaunchBox powered by PNC Bank programming and was an awarded finalist in the 2023 Invent Penn State Inc.U Competition.

## 2016 - 2022 Network activities & outcomes

Entrepreneurs assisted

5,979

Faculty & students engaged

16,964

Ventures received legal & IP advice

3,544

New PA companies

278

Startup program graduates

626

Jobs created

403

Internships created

531



Find more network information at [invent.psu.edu/launchbox](https://invent.psu.edu/launchbox)



# Inspired researchers, makers & doers

...solving pressing industry problems, advancing statewide sustainability, serving the underserved and helping others realize their dreams.

Helping at-risk youth launch into adulthood with the bare necessities of home



**Mel McDaniel**  
Marvin's Home

When Mel McDaniel began her career as an interior designer in 2006, she quickly realized how many homeowners are constantly trying to get rid of or donate their old furniture. McDaniel knew there were people who could really use the furniture and created Marvin's Home – a 501(c)(3) nonprofit serving the Philadelphia area that takes furniture donations and directly delivers them to the mostly empty apartments of young adults who have been homeless or recently aged out of the foster care system.

Enabling engineering teams to achieve cost reduction in sensor data analytics



**Ankur Verma**  
Lightscline

Penn State industrial engineering Ph.D. candidate and Diefenderfer Graduate Fellow in Entrepreneurship Ankur Verma is developing a patent-pending AI-based software that will significantly reduce the amount of data collected by devices such as drones and satellites. Taking inspiration from the efficiency of the human perception system, he is training machines to filter data points to only those needed for decision-making purposes.

Providing fashion & functionality to the future of barbering



**Tyler Tracy + Ben Johnson**  
SLCKR

Passionate about cutting hair and seeing a gap in the industry with an interest in fashion, Tyler and Ben launched their barber wear startup as undergraduates at Penn State. In six months, they won \$20,000 in funding to work on their business idea and are continuing to experience growth post-graduation, ending 2022 with more than \$140,000 in sales with over 1,000 users of their flagship product, The Rig, across 13 countries.

## York Wallcoverings

York Wallcoverings has been manufacturing wallpaper in the same factory location in York, PA for over a century. When deciding to improve their energy efficiency, they turned to the Pennsylvania Technical Assistance Program (PennTAP) to upgrade lighting and are poised to save \$14,749 and 210,840 kWh of energy annually.



Scan to read more inspiring stories

Find a showcase  
of Penn State  
affiliated startups at  
[startupnavigator.psu.edu](http://startupnavigator.psu.edu)

# Made possible by

...Invent Penn State and the ingenious power of partnership.

Invent Penn State is redefining the university's land-grant mission to include entrepreneurship and innovation programs, tools and resources that accelerate the movement of great ideas to the marketplace and make a substantial economic development impact in Pennsylvania and beyond.

Invent Penn State is a coordinated effort spanning 24 campuses, all academic colleges—including the College of Medicine and Penn State Law—and numerous institutes and centers. Countless Penn Staters, community leaders and

industry partners have contributed to developing resources and support for faculty, staff, student and community innovators—free accelerator programs, coworking spaces, legal and IP advice, mentorship, rapid prototyping, pitch competitions and funding.

Many thanks to the Office of the Senior Vice President for Research, Commonwealth Campus Chancellors and their LaunchBox and Innovation Network teams, and our many collaborators across the state of Pennsylvania who are developing new resources daily.

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Connect with us at [invent.psu.edu](http://invent.psu.edu)

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Invent Penn State is a Commonwealth-wide initiative to spur economic development, job creation, and student career success. Invent Penn State blends entrepreneurship-focused academic programs, business startup training and incubation, funding for commercialization, and university-community-industry collaborations to facilitate the challenging process of turning research discoveries into valuable products and services that can benefit Pennsylvanians and humankind. Learn more at [invent.psu.edu](http://invent.psu.edu).



**PennState**

Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.

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