Invent
Penn State

2022 - 2023

The Ingenious
Power of Partnership

invent.psu.edu
A statewide innovation ecosystem

...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.

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
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.

2016 - 2022
Network activities & outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entrepreneurs assisted</th>
<th>Faculty &amp; students engaged</th>
<th>Ventures received legal &amp; IP advice</th>
<th>Jobs created</th>
<th>Internships created</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5,979</td>
<td>16,964</td>
<td>3,544</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>531</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New PA companies
278

Find more network information at 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

Enabling engineering teams to achieve cost reduction in sensor data analytics

Providing fashion & functionality to the future of barbering

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.

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.

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.

Scan to read more inspiring stories

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.

Find a showcase of Penn State affiliated startups at startupnavigator.psu.edu
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.

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.

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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