### University of Idaho Biotechnology & Biomedical Research

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Legislative Biotechnology Task Force
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## University of Idaho Idaho's Land Grant Institution

Professional Programs Historically Focused on:

- Life Sciences in Agriculture and Natural Resources
  - Molecular Biology and Genetics
  - Plant Sciences (crops and forests)
  - Animal Sciences (livestock and wildlife/fish)



## Ul's 21st Century Science

- Focus on Multidisciplinary Teams
  - Professional Programs in Agriculture & Natural Resources
  - Biological Science and Molecular Biology
  - Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics
  - Engineering
- Critical Success Factors
  - Critical mass of scientists
  - Modern, well-equipped laboratories



### Ul's Strategic Themes

- Promote Science and Technology
  - Biosciences research, development and management of biologically based organisms and their ecosystems
- Catalyze Entrepreneurial Innovation
  - Bioindustries develop high-tech innovations and move innovations to market
- Steward the Environment
  - Biotechnology develop technologies that attract and retain natural resource-based industries to Idaho



## Ul's Biotechnology and Biomedical Focus

- Infectious Diseases (NIH COBR)
- Microbial Ecology (NIH COBR)
- Reproductive Biology (NSF & USDA)
- Developmental Biology (NSF & USDA)
- Neuroscience (NIH and NSF)
- Bioinformatics (NSF and NIH)



# UI's Science and Technology Faculty

	Total	Full-time	Full-time
	S&T	Research	Biotech/Biomed
College	Faculty	Equivalents	Equivalents
CALS	221	60	24
CEngr	74	22	9
CNR	45	17	7
CSci	<u>79</u>	31	<u>12</u>
Total	419	130	52



## Ul's External Grant and Contract Expenditures

The University of Idaho Research Enterprise:

- Had nearly \$75 million of G&C expenditures in 2005
  - 40% or about \$30 million of the expenditures supported life sciences research
  - 36% or about \$27 million of the expenditures supported other science and technology research areas
  - 24% or about \$18 million of the expenditures supported other creativity activities



## Ul's Innovations and Technology Transfer Accomplishments

#### The University of Idaho has:

- Disclosed 108 new technologies during the past 3-years
- Awarded 11 new patents during the past 3-years
  - 44 active patent applications under consideration
- 47 active technology licenses in 2005
- Helped create 2 new start-up companies during the past 3years



## Challenges Facing a Competitive Research Program

- Faculty Recruitment and Retention
  - Competitive salaries
  - Equipped, modern laboratories
- Graduate Student Recruitment
  - Competitive salaries
- Maintenance, Renovation and Development of Laboratories
- Maintenance and Acquisition of Equipment



## Research Facilities and Equipment

- Science Laboratories
  - New laboratory construction @ \$300/sq. ft. or greater
    - Office/Classroom construction @ < \$200/sq. ft.
  - Hoods, benches, conditioned water, gas, air, IT network
  - No equipment
- Scientific Equipment
  - Genetic Sequencers @ \$100K to \$250K many
  - Mass Spectrometers @ \$200K to \$500K many
  - NMR Spectroscopes @ \$200K to 900K
  - Electron Microscopes @ \$300 to \$900K1 to 3



## Faculty Recruitment and Retention

- New Assistant Professor
  - National market competitive salary
    - 80% of an existing Full Prof salary
  - Competitive Start-up
    - Provide equipment and graduate student stipends
- New Full Professor
  - International market very competitive salary
    - 140% of an existing Full Prof salary
  - Competitive Start-up
    - Duplicate or enhance the professors existing laboratory facilities



## Why Recruit and Retain Faculty?

Each Full-time Research Faculty Member should:

- Support 3-5 graduate students
- Support 1 research technician
- Support 1-2 post-docs
- This is 5-8 additional employees/major researcher
- This is 1-3 additions to the biotechnology workforce annually



### Our State's Science Environment

- Limited Infrastructure
  - To compete we must focus on our strategic advantages and areas where we can excel
  - To compete we must collaborate to leverage our individual resources into a nationally competitive critical mass
    - Facilitated by a state-wide, broad-band communication network
- University Expertise in Managing a Science Enterprise
  - Utilize graduate education to create new technology
  - Utilize graduate education to develop the next generation biotechnology-trained workforce



## In Closing

- Thanks for an opportunity to highlight the UI's biotechnology program focus and challenges
- Complement BioIdaho for generating public and private sector interest in biotechnology
- Questions?

