**UF Tech Connect**

The University of Florida EDA University Center was created as a partnership between the University of Florida and the Economic Development Administration to provide a venue for bringing together the necessary elements to create companies.

Supported by the university's Office of Technology Licensing, this ideal partnership helps Florida universities accomplish one of their key goals: taking research from the benchtop to the marketplace. It also helps EDA accomplish its mission: creating jobs and generating private investment to help the economy.

The University of Florida EDA University Center collaborates with many public and private organizations to foster new business creation. The Center develops new programs, sponsors events, and facilitates mutually beneficial connections.

Housed in and supported by the university's Office of Technology Licensing, the University of Florida EDA University Center is at the pulse-point of the region's high-tech start-up activity. Because of the tremendous volume of research generated at UF and the user-friendly reputation of its Office of Technology Licensing, the University of Florida EDA University Center serves as a magnet for entrepreneurs and investors seeking new opportunities, and a catalyst for new business creation.

* Faculty Inventors- Helping faculty take discoveries from the laboratory to the market to benefit society by connecting them with experienced entrepreneurs who can assist with the complexities of creating a business.
* Entrepreneurs- Helping entrepreneurs identify technologies appropriate for start-up enterprises and introducing them to the technical expertise to support further development of the technology.
* Investors- Helping investors identify start-up firms that are well-positioned to generate a suitable return on their investment, and are in need of funding.
* Facilities and Resources- Helping our start-up companies locate appropriate facilities and resources, including those found at our two local incubators, the Sid Martin Biotechnology Development Incubator (BDI) and the Gainesville Technology Enterprise Center (GTEC).