Opportunities for Working With or Creating Industry

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Geometrics and TomoTherapy

Geometrics (1992-1996) Gehring (CEO), Reckwerdt, Sanders, Mackie (Chairman)

- Pinnacle³ Radiation treatment planning.
- ~1/4 of cancer patients planned with this software for ~20 years

TomoTherapy (1997-2011) Mackie (Chairman), Reckwerdt (President)

- **Radiation treatment**
- planning and delivery. \$1.0 B IPO (2007).
- > 1 million patients
- treated





Role of Industry in Innovation

- Technical solutions to solve a problem usually indirectly or directly involve a company.
- For example, climate change will not be solved by social consciousness alone but by companies developing convenient and affordable energy technologies that do not involve fossil fuels.
- Medical innovations are the same, if only because regulatory clearances usually require resources only affordable by the private sector.



	Pure basic	Lean. towards basic	Equally basic and applied	Lean. towards applied	Pure applied	Total	n
Teacher training and education	7	12	(32)	29	19	100	677
Humanities	(28)	21	26	16	9	100	1,347
Social/behavioural sciences	19	19	24	23	16	100	1,127
Business and economics	8	15	31	28	18	100	980
Law	18	20	(34)	18	10	100	301
Life sciences	22	(26)	23	17	12	100	694
Physical sciences, mathematics, computer sciences	18	24	29	19	10	100	1,809
Engineering, architecture	3	13	(32)	(32)	21	100	1,667
Agriculture	4	8	23	31	35	100	305
Medical and health sciences	9	16	18	27	(30)	100	1,322
Other	8	15	33	24	20	100	334
Total	14	18	(27)	24	17	100	10,563



Public Vs Private Funding

Public	Private			
Limited money	Unlimited money			
Decision by your peers	Decision by investors			
Basic ideas OK, but applied more successful	Only applied ideas will be funded by industry			
Results in publications, training, and more grants	Results in use by society and more investment			
Limited funding for regulatory efforts	Funding always includes regulatory considerations			

Working With Industry

David Jaffray developed cone beam CT at Beaumont Hospital Hospital in Michigan. This would not have been a good environment for Jaffray except for enlightened management and the presence of John Wong.



David Jaffray

Starting Startups

- Stanford Linear Accelerator lab was one of the preeminent linac labs in the world.
- Stanford had large and exceptional engineering programs.
- Stanford capitalized on the linac with a partnership with Varian and later developed the CyberKnife.
- Stanford understands the value of entrepreneurship.



Steps for Industrial Engagement

- Identify a important problem.
- Arrive at a technical solution to the problem.
- Protect your intellectual property.
- Ensure that there are customers for the solution.
 - Pitch your solution to a company or start your own company.

Mo-99 Made in Aging Reactors



NRU Reactor, Chalk River, Canada – now shut down

HFR Petton Reactor, Holland – soon to be shut down







Mo-99 Production with a Sub-Critical Assembly ~\$300 M



An Irradiation Unit consists of:

D-T Neutron Driver Subcritical Assembly * Concrete confinement structure (Irradiation Cell) Supporting systems (e.g. Target Solution Dump Tank, Cooling Systems, Neutron Flux Monitor)









with a company or create a company.

Conclusions

- You don't predict the future you make the future.
 If you consider yourself an applied scientist then maximize your impact by driving your ideas into practical use.
- Look for the gaps and operate at the edge.
 Funding from public and private sources is fundamentally different.
- Nothing is too big to take on with the private sector.
- Entrepreneurism may be the highest form of academic engagement with society.