Partner with the University of Pittsburgh and expect a dynamic convergence of brilliant, visionary minds. Collaborate with Pitt’s world-class researchers and expect exciting new ideas built upon the University’s long legacy of pioneering research, state-of-the-art facilities, and proactive innovation development. Pursue research excellence together with Pitt on your team and expect world-changing results.

Excellence in Research at Pitt

- More than 220 years of groundbreaking research and innovation development
- Supported by $737 million in sponsored research funding in fiscal year 2010
- Ranked fifth in the country in research funding from the National Institutes of Health in 2008
- Ranked in the top cluster of America’s public research universities for the fourth consecutive year, according to the Center for Measuring University Performance in its 2009 report, which was released in 2010
- Closely affiliated with University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, one of the largest academic medical centers in the world
- Active technology transfer office with a diverse portfolio of innovations available for licensing
A Research Powerhouse

The same kind of imagination and ingenuity that allowed Jonas Salk to develop the first safe and effective polio vaccine in 1955 at the University of Pittsburgh continues to inspire faculty, staff, and student researchers to achieve innovative excellence at Pitt today.

When you partner with the University of Pittsburgh, you gain direct access to such expertise, research, and innovations. The University fosters a collaborative, multi-disciplinary research culture that has built Pitt into a powerhouse of research strengths. Among them are the following:

- Imaging research
- Medical device development
- Cancer detection and treatment
- Computer modeling and simulation
- Regenerative medicine
- National preparedness
- Neuroscience
- Radio frequency identification (RFID)
- Biophysics
- Drug discovery
- Vaccine research
- Genomics
- Gene therapy
- Advanced materials
- Aging
- Rehabilitation science
- Sports medicine
- Orthopaedic surgery
- Biomedical informatics
- Organ transplantation
- Nanoscience and engineering
- Diabetes research
- Psychiatry
- Energy research
- Pulmonary medicine
- Orthopaedic surgery
- Biomedical informatics
- Organ transplantation
- Nanoscience and engineering
- Diabetes research
- Psychiatry
- Energy research
- Pulmonary medicine

In 1955, the polio vaccine developed by Jonas Salk (top left) and his team of Pitt researchers was declared to be “safe, effective, and potent.” This has been hailed as one of the great achievements of the 20th century. Newsweek reported: “It was a summit moment in history. None before it in the field of medicine ever received such dramatic affirmation, instant public comprehension, and official blessing.”

Thomas Starzl (bottom left), University of Pittsburgh Distinguished Service Professor of Surgery, performed the world’s first (human) liver transplant. He received the National Medal of Science, this country’s highest scientific honor, in 2006. He was honored for his pioneering work in liver transplantation and his discoveries in immunosuppressive medication that advanced the field of organ transplantation.
Did You Know?

As one of the top research universities in the country, the University of Pittsburgh has amassed an impressive array of research endeavors that have evolved into world-renowned research centers, institutes, and other acclaimed multidisciplinary initiatives. The University is home to the following:

- University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute
- McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine
- Clinical and Translational Science Institute
- Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute
- Drug Discovery Institute
- A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-designated Center for Vaccine Research
- Safar Center for Resuscitation Research
- RFID Center of Excellence
- Gertrude E. and John M. Petersen Institute of NanoScience and Engineering
- Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences Research Center
- Peter M. Winter Institute for Simulation Education and Research
- Center for National Preparedness
- Center for Energy
- Center for Simulation and Modeling
- Center for Emergency Medicine
- Center for Assistive Technology
- CLIA-certified labs for supporting clinical research

(left) Professors William Klunk from the Department of Psychiatry and Chester Mathis from the Department of Radiology received the American Academy of Neurology’s Potamkin Prize (also known as the “Nobel Prize of neurology”) for their pioneering work in the early diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease.

Andrew Schwartz (top right), a professor of neurobiology, is developing a robotic arm that can be controlled through thought. He already has successfully tested his research, which includes studying the many variable signals in the motor cortex section of the brain required to form the reaching movement, on monkeys.

Rory Cooper (right), Distinguished Professor and chair of the Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology, and his team of researchers actively invent new ways to improve the quality of life for others with disabilities. Among his innovations are an injection-molded pediatric chair, a wheelchair sensor system, a natural-fit hand rim for wheelchair wheels, and a “game cycle” exercise device for those with disabilities.

Marlin Mickle (bottom left), the Nicholas A. DeCecco Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has developed breakthrough innovations around radio frequency-based electronics. His innovations range from wireless ambient energy harvesting, burst switches, and tiny antennae to devices for deep-brain stimulation and safety packaging for medication blister packs, among others.
Facilitating Partnerships

The University of Pittsburgh Office of Technology Management (OTM), with support from the affiliated Office of Enterprise Development (OED), Health Sciences, serves as the hub of all technology commercialization activities at Pitt. It also provides a portal through which industry, entrepreneurs, and investors can access Pitt Innovators, their research programs, and the innovations that emerge as a result.

OTM and OED work hard to foster new relationships with industry—long-lasting partnerships in sponsored research, new innovation development, technology licensing, and the formation of start-up companies. If you’re interested in exploring a new partnership, contact us at 412-648-2206, and we’ll gladly facilitate a discussion. And if you’re interested in exploring one of hundreds of Pitt technologies that are available for licensing, browse our database of technologies.

www.otm.pitt.edu

Albert and Vera Donnenberg (top right), a husband-and-wife research team, are on a quest to find, and eventually kill or manipulate, dormant cancer stem cells. The research of Albert, a professor of medicine, and Vera, an assistant professor of surgery and pharmaceutical sciences, has led to the identification and characterization of specific cancer stem cells as well as the development of new flow cytometry-based tools and techniques.

Eric Beckman (bottom right), George M. Bevier Professor of Engineering, along with former Pitt professor Michael Buckley, developed a biocompatible, biodegradable urethane-based glue for holding soft or hard tissue together. The technology has served as the basis for a new start-up company that is focusing initially on the plastic surgery field.
The University of Pittsburgh, as an educational institution and as an employer, values equality of opportunity, human dignity, and racial/ethnic and cultural diversity. Accordingly, as fully explained in Policy 07-01-03, the University prohibits and will not engage in discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, genetic information, disability, or status as a veteran. The University also prohibits and will not engage in retaliation against any person who makes a claim of discrimination or harassment or who provides information in such an investigation. Further, the University will continue to take affirmative steps to support and advance these values consistent with the University’s mission. This policy applies to admissions, employment, and access to and treatment in University programs and activities. This is a commitment made by the University and is in accordance with federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations.

For information on University equal opportunity and affirmative action programs, please contact: University of Pittsburgh; Office of Affirmative Action, Diversity, and Inclusion; Carol W. Mohamed, Director (and Title IX, 504 and ADA Coordinator); 412 Bellefield Hall; 315 South Bellefield Avenue; Pittsburgh, PA 15260; 412-648-7860.

For complete details on the University’s Nondiscrimination Policy, please refer to Policy 07-01-03. For information on how to file a complaint under this policy, please refer to Procedure 07-01-03.

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