

December Snapshot

December 31, 2020

Technology Developments

- An early-stage company commercializing a School of Medicine technology (gene therapy for age-related macular degeneration), having completed the Phase 1 study of its compound, has been [acquired](#) by a large pharmaceutical company.
- An early-stage company commercializing a School of Engineering technology (silk-based vaccine stabilization and microneedle patch) is making progress in its effort, supported by [BARDA](#), to develop a single dose, self-applied room-temperature stable [COVID patch](#).
- A company that has commercialized a School of Art & Science technology (digitizing biomarker analysis for precision health) has received FDA Emergency Use Authorization for its semi-quantitative automatable [SARS-CoV-2 IgG antibody test](#).

Translational Funding Opportunities

- Tufts tech transfer evaluated 66 industry calls for innovative solutions in a range of fields that included therapeutics, consumer healthcare, diagnostics, waste treatment, telecommunications, nutraceuticals and materials. Seven opportunities were identified to have a good correspondence with Tufts technologies/ knowhow. Of these, three were brought to the attention of relevant Tufts PIs resulting in one submission from the School of Engineering.

Highlights

Patent Number	Description	Key Tufts inventor/s
10,874,742	Silk-based shape memory materials for biomedical implants	David Kaplan & Fiorenzo Omenetto
10,864,299	Artificial silk-based innervated cornea for therapeutics testing & transplants	David Kaplan

Company	Agreement type – subject matter	Key Tufts inventor/s
Velum, Inc	Exclusive option – Chemical modification of therapeutic peptides to reduce side effects	Krishna Kumar

Metrics*

(Dec 2020 & Fiscal Year-To-Date)

	Dec	FY21
Interactions with PIs	32	156
Invention disclosures received (IDFs)	6	29
New US patent applications filed	11	34
Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs)	11	70
Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs)	5	47
Marketing exchanges with companies	18	137
IP-linked Sponsored Research Agreements (SRAs)	0	4
Finalized licenses and options	0	6

* Approximate counts – subject to revision

