



Service

The Georgia VentureLab provides assistance to UGA scientists interested in creating start-up companies by offering assessments of the commercial viability of technologies, business coaching, and networking events designed to bring together scientists, industry experts, and investors.



Technology Assessment

The Georgia VentureLab team, with a combination of technical and business backgrounds, guides UGA inventors in the determination of their innovations' commercial potential. The determination of whether to form a start-up company or to license the technology to an existing company is dependant not only on the potential of the technology, but also on the goals and temperament of the inventor.



Workshops and Seminars

Georgia VentureLab events provide a forum for entrepreneurs, industry experts, investors, and scientists to exchange insights about how to effectively grow their knowledge-based ventures. Workshop topics range from intellectual property protection to generating outside investment capital.



Georgia VentureLab Fellows

Knowledge is one of the foundations of competitive advantage, and Georgia VentureLab works to complement the technological know-how of UGA scientists with the business acumen of proven entrepreneurs. VentureLab Fellows are business people who bring their entrepreneurial experience and industry knowledge to the start-up team. Fellows serve as mentors who may assume active management roles as the businesses grow.



Get Started

To apply, submit a single-page summary of your technology and commercialization strategy to the Georgia BioBusiness Center. Georgia VentureLab staff will then help you in the generation of a proposal addressing topics such as the technology, market need, and value proposition. Applications are accepted on a competitive basis, and grants are awarded quarterly.

Georgia BioBusiness Center
and **Georgia VentureLab**
are programs of the University of Georgia,
that are supported by the
University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc.
a 501 (c)(3) corporation.

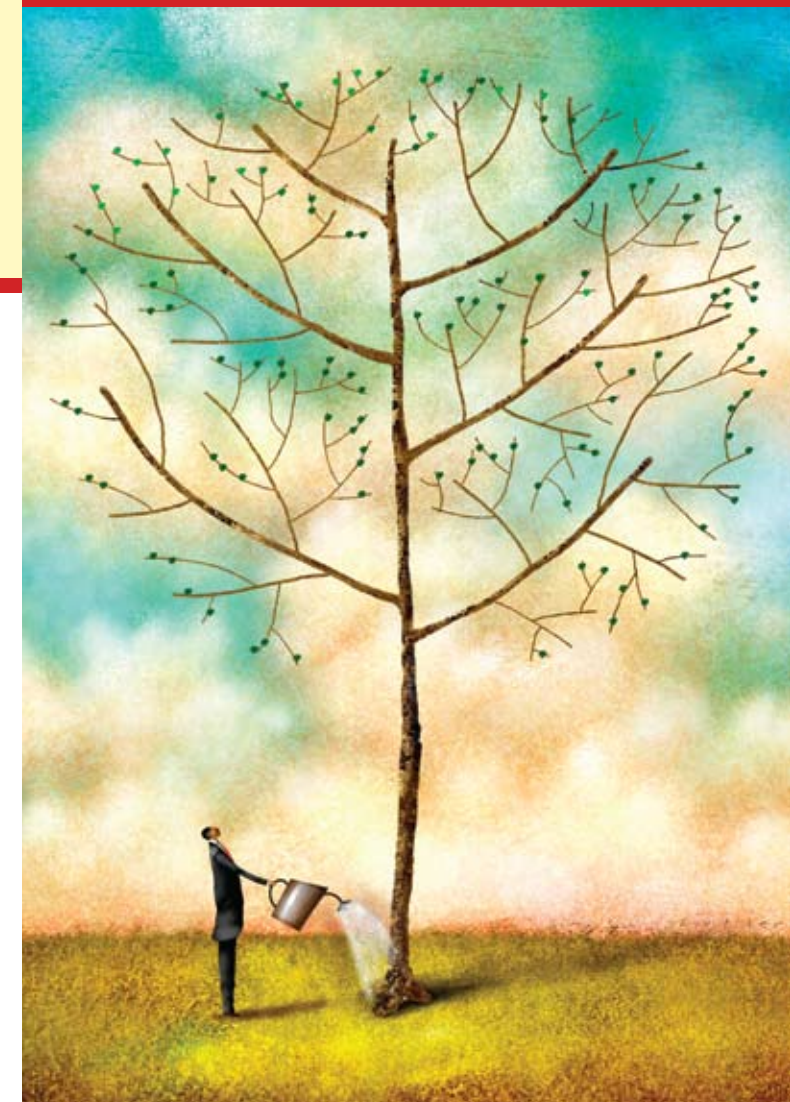
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Georgia VentureLab

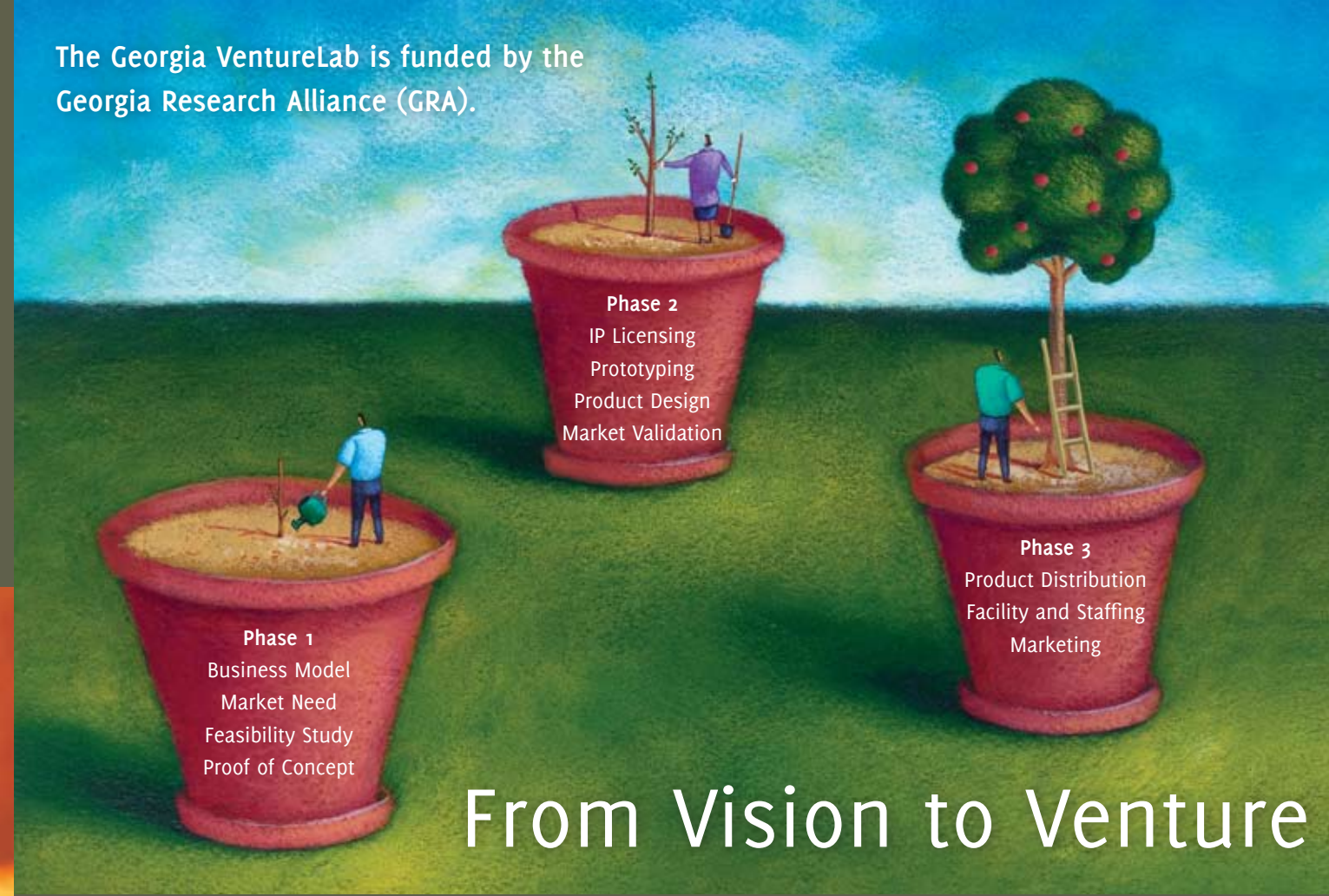
Coaching • Infrastructure • Network Building • Grant Support



Growing Start-Ups at the
University of Georgia

The Georgia VentureLab works to increase the vitality of the region's economy by assisting University of Georgia faculty, staff, and students to develop start-up companies based upon their academic research and technology. The program helps to accelerate company growth through access to excellent business services, sophisticated equipment and facilities, and critical early-stage funding.

The Georgia VentureLab is funded by the Georgia Research Alliance (GRA).



“ Without VentureLab, our company would not exist as it does today. VentureLab helped us to assess the market, refine our product and ultimately reach profitability faster than would have been possible otherwise.”

JAMES ATWOOD, *co-founder*
BioInquire

From Vision to Venture

Seed grants awarded in 3 phases

.....■ **Phase 1 seed grants** provide academic researchers the supplemental funds needed to determine the feasibility of commercializing their research discoveries. Pre-incorporated and early-stage companies have used VentureLab Phase 1 grants to develop business plans, perform market assessments, and conduct proof-of-concept studies. These activities mitigate the technical and market risks associated with early-stage start-ups and are essential steps toward securing outside investment. Awards are limited to \$50,000 and do not require matching funds.

.....■ **Phase 2 seed grants** are designed to help companies develop further by solidifying their intellectual property (IP) position, developing working prototypes, and/or preparing the company to seek outside funding from angel or venture capital investors. Phase 2 awards are limited to \$100,000 and require matching funds to provide external market validation.

.....■ **Phase 3 seed grants**, unlike VentureLab Phase 1 and Phase 2 grants, are actually low interest loans from the GRA made directly to promising early-stage companies. Georgia VentureLab companies have used Phase 3 funds to perform critical field trials, and final product formulation. Phase 3 investments are up to \$250,000.

Access to infrastructure

The Georgia VentureLab is integrated with the University of Georgia's BioBusiness Center, which occupies laboratory and office space conveniently located on the UGA Athens campus. The GBBC provides VentureLab companies access to critical infrastructure, including office space, laboratory space and sophisticated equipment at a cost that early-stage start-ups typically cannot afford. The association with the University of Georgia also allows for access to UGA faculty, including GRA Eminent Scholars, talented students, and emerging intellectual property.

VentureLab facilities are available at a low cost that is essential to the growth of early-stage start-up companies.

