### Aligning Your Research with Industry

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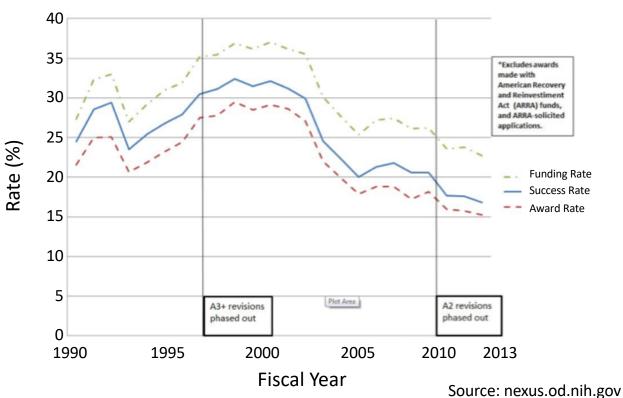
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#### NIH funding rates

- Depressing regardless of whether you consider rate by percentage of individuals funded or applications funded
- Need to identify alternative funding sources

## Success Rates for NIH Research Project Grants (fiscal years 1990-2013)

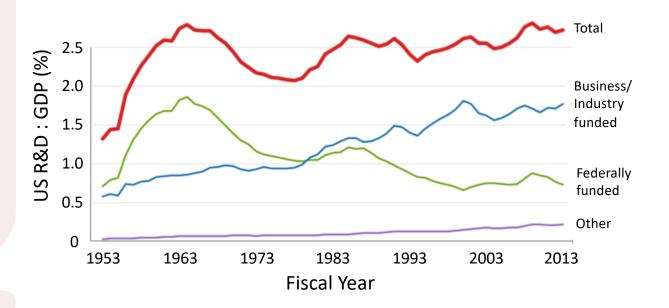




- Business and industry partners have stepped in to compensate for the decline in R&D federal funding
- Total R&D funding as a percentage of GDP is stabilizing thanks to business and industry funding
- Focus: applied and translational research

Rethink the role of business/ industry in supporting your research

## Funding Sources for US R&D (fiscal years 1953-2013)



Source: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Patterns of R&D Resources (annual series) Get the data



#### **Outline**

- How to gather useful insights from the market
- Common customer discovery mistakes
- OTD can support you in aligning your research with industry



- Industry looks at academia for cutting edge ideas
  - Scientific conferences (presentations and posters)
  - Partnering meetings
  - Pre-existing relationship with OTD
- Industry takes into consideration:
  - Strategic fit
  - I evel of risk
  - Competitive edge



- Evidence-based practice for health care disciplines (1992)
  - Strong scientific evidence | Clinical expertise | Individual patients' needs/choices



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  - Developed the customer development method that launched the Lean Startup movement
    - Lean Launchpad class (taught as the NSF Innovation Corps, and NIH Innovation Corps) has become the standard for commercialization of all federal research.

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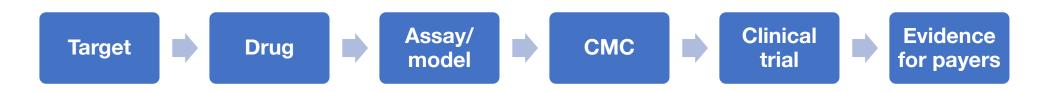
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- CUSTOMER DISCOVERY = EVIDENCE-BASED ENTREPRENEURSHIP
  - Look for patterns of behavior that confirm or deny your assumptions
    - Evidence there is a need for your technology
    - Evidence your technology has a competitive edge
    - Evidence it is a viable option for users
- NO PITCHING do not propose solution based on feedback
- NO FUTURE QUESTIONS do not ask hypothetical questions



#### Customer discovery can help you:

De-risk your technology and avoid barriers to market entry

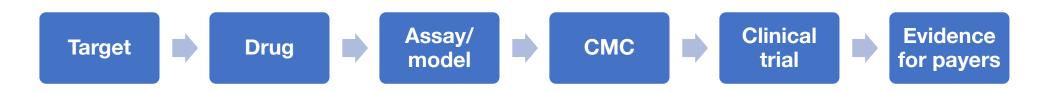


- At what stage does your company typically engage with academia?
- What targets or mechanisms are of interest to your company?
- What does a successful preclinical data package typically include?

Source: Pullan Consulting, April 2018

#### Customer discovery can help you:

De-risk your technology and avoid barriers to market entry



- How do you determine if your product needs improvement?
- What challenges do you face when moving a technology from academia through clinical trials?

Source: Pullan Consulting, April 2018

#### **Customer Discovery Mistakes**

- Using only secondary research
  - Information may be outdated or not directly relevant
  - Online data is available to everyone, no true competitive edge
- Surveying only the people you know
  - May not be your target customer, networking is crucial



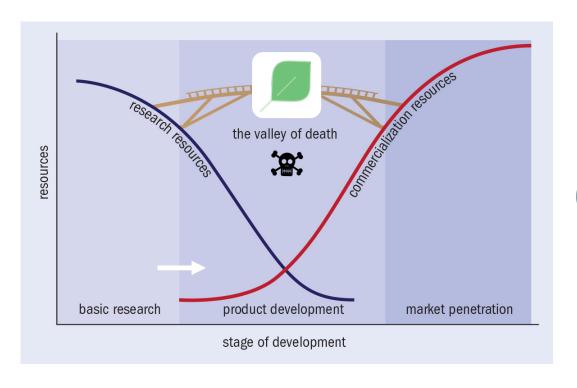
#### **Customer Discovery Message**

- Gathering **useful** insights from the market can help you:
  - Lower the risk associated with your technology
  - Help you avoid costly mistakes
  - Align your research with industry

# **Grawth Fund**

# Move OU innovation closer to the market

#### The Research "Gap" (aka Valley of Death)



Government generally funds basic research

Grawth Fund

Industry wants more "de-risked" technology

Graphic: James Dacey 2014 Phys. World 27 (11) 29



#### **Two Interdependent Phases**





#### **Eligibility**



All OU inventors/researchers (faculty, staff & grad student)

- Health Sciences Center
- Norman
- Tulsa



Must have a disclosure filed with the Office of Technology Development prior to application



# ou.edu/otd/growthfund

# Your Research & Our Office