

# INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM AT CHOP: ENABLING ACADEMIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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Innovation Ecosystem  
Clinical Informatics, Pediatric Hospital Medicine

Monday, October 13, 2025



# AUDIENCE CHECK

- What's your motivation for attending today?
- What does "innovation" mean to you?
- What does "academic entrepreneurship" mean to you?

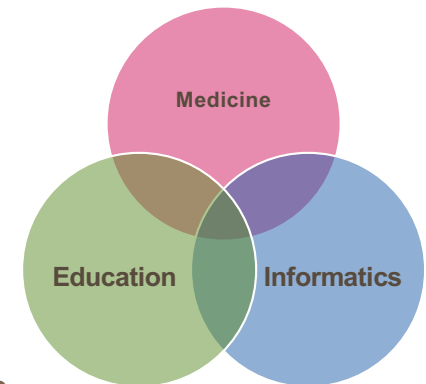
# SESSION OVERVIEW

- Introduction & Motivation
- Define Academic Entrepreneurship
- Describe CHOP's Innovation Ecosystem
- List resources & programs
- Suggest next steps & engagement

# ABOUT ME

**Daria Ferro, MD, FAAP, FAMIA**

- Attending Physician, Sections of Hospital Medicine & Clinical Informatics
- Clinical Informatics Fellowship Faculty, Course Director for CI & QI, DBHi
- Clinical Informatics Medical Director, Health IT Measurement and Outcomes
- Clinical Advisor, Phrase Health
- Co-Director and Capacity Pillar Lead, Innovation Ecosystem



INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM







Pediatrics Unit, Mercy, Cedar Rapids (Iowa)



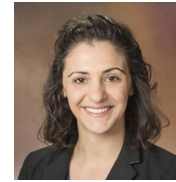
Inpatient Room, Johns Hopkins Medicine (Maryland)

# CHOP Innovation Ecosystem (IE)

## A connected, distributed team



Flaura Winston,  
MD, PhD  
Director



Daria Ferro, MD  
Co-Director &  
Capacity Pillar  
Lead



Suzanne Hill  
Community  
Pillar Lead



Natalie  
Oppenheimer  
Program Manager



Asif Chinwalla, MS,  
EMBA  
Connections Pillar  
Lead



Rich Tsui, PhD  
Tsui Lab Director



Tia Regec  
Outreach  
Coordinator



Vicki Bartek, MS,  
MSW  
Project Manager



Sifei Han, PhD  
NLP Data Scientist



Sachin Grover, MS  
AI/UI/UX Data Scientist

# WHAT IS ACADEMIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP?

As a *field...*

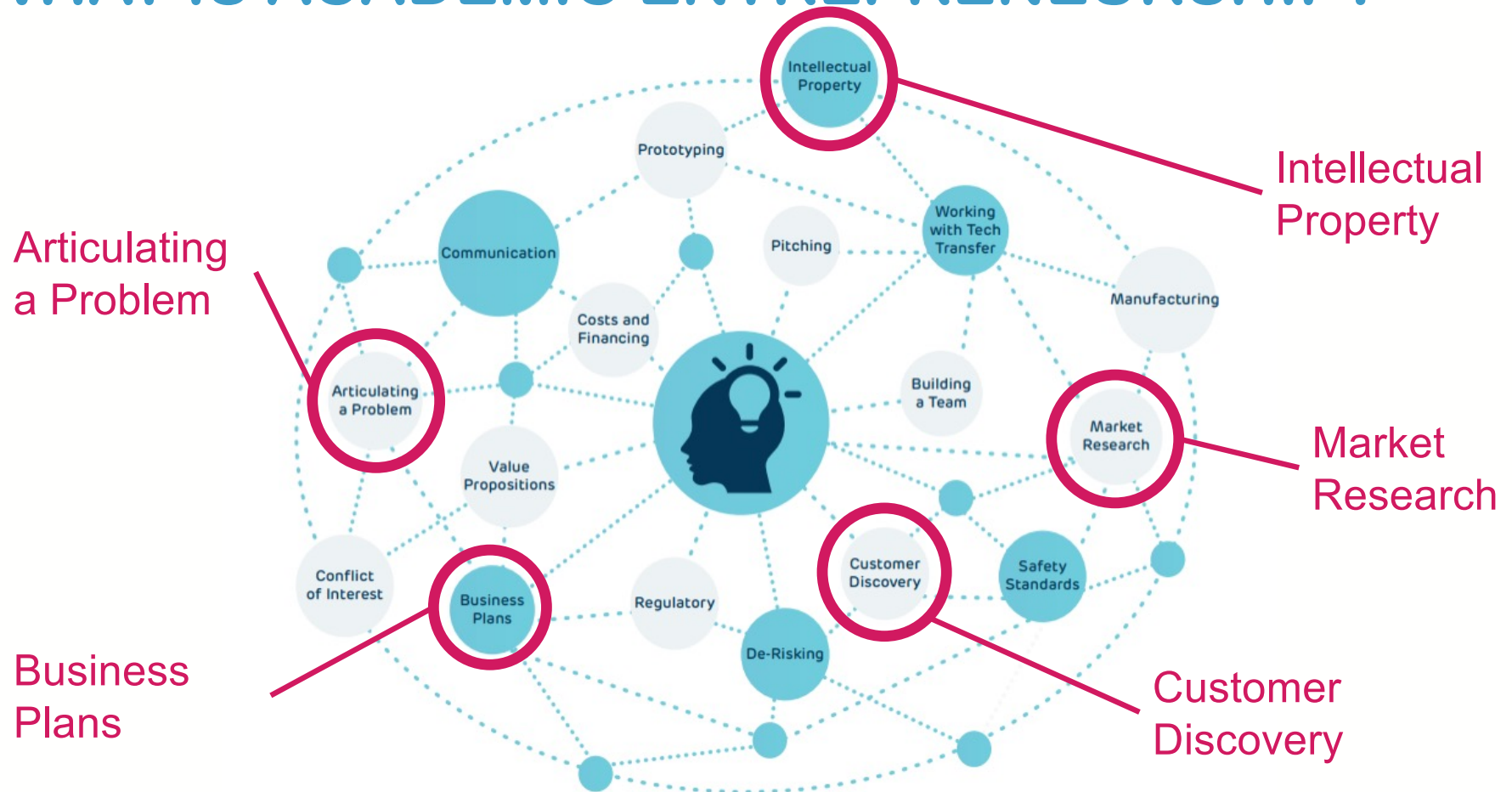
- The intentional focus on **translating science and technology** developed in academic settings **into health impact via commercialization routes** for larger scale uptake.

As a *career path...*

- Involves **translational research activities that target impact** and return on investment in medical and health science.



# WHAT IS ACADEMIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP?



# CHOP'S INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM (EST. 2019)

## ASSET PORTFOLIO

Our mission: to facilitate innovation by preparing CHOP faculty and staff via opportunities to **strengthen community, build connections, and increase capacity** related to innovation and entrepreneurship.



Academic Entrepreneurship  
Medical and Health Scientists  
eBook



Learn & Connect Event Series



Academic Entrepreneurship  
Fundamentals: A Professional  
Development Course



Translating Discoveries to  
the Bedside: A Medical  
Devices Course



Expertise Knowledge Platform  
(EKP)

# ASSET GOALS



Academic Entrepreneurship  
Medical and Health Scientists  
eBook

- Free Open Educational Resource (OER) to teach and guide innovators
- 50+ “bite-sized” textbook chapters, event recordings, and interactive online learning modules organized into eight collections



Learn & Connect Event Series

- Prepares innovators for expert conversations and introduces key academic entrepreneurship concepts
- Facilitates cross-silo networking and community-building through interactive storytelling and case-based learning
- Serves as an entry point to deeper professional development offerings like courses and bootcamps



Academic Entrepreneurship  
Fundamentals: A Professional  
Development Course

- Seven weekly, 3-hour, in-person skill-building sessions, with current academic entrepreneurs and industry experts
- CHOP / Penn resources highlighted throughout the course to guide participants on their entrepreneurial journeys



Translating Discoveries to the  
Bedside: A Medical Devices  
Course

- NIH R25-funded program featuring expert-led instruction, real-world case studies, and collaborative projects focused on medical devices
- Includes personalized mentorship, career development support, and networking opportunities across academia and industry



Expertise Knowledge Platform  
(EKP)

- An up-to-date, searchable database of institutional research expertise that links together the CHOP employee database, PubMed, NIH Reporter, and eSPA
- Used to conduct keyword searches (much like PubMed) that find subject matter experts, generate summary reports, or provide a “360° view” of any individual’s expertise and research products (grants & papers)

# ACADEMIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR MEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENTISTS



- **Free** Open Educational Resource (OER) to teach and guide innovators
- 50+ “bite-sized” textbook chapters, event recordings, and interactive online learning modules organized into eight collections:



<https://academicentrepreneurship.pubpub.org/>

# LEARN & CONNECT EVENT SERIES



- “L&C” format was designed to
  - Prepare innovators for informed, productive conversations with expert legal, technology transfer, business, and other resources
  - Facilitate networking and community-building – particularly between silos
  - Use content from the e-book
- Awareness Sessions: Core Concepts of Academic Entrepreneurship in Medicine / Weaving Academic Entrepreneurship into Your Career Path
  - Introduce clinical and research professionals to entrepreneurship pathways in and beyond academia through storytelling & cases
  - Provide a preamble to the full professional development course / bootcamp content

# ACADEMIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP FUNDAMENTALS: A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE



- Seven weekly, 3-hour, in-person skill-building sessions, with mentorship/coaching from current academic entrepreneurs and industry experts
- CHOP and Penn resources highlighted throughout the course to guide participants on their entrepreneurial journeys

Date (all 1-4PM)	Topic
Oct 9	Opening Session/Intro to Academic Entrepreneurship
Oct 16	Defining/Refining Problem Statements
Oct 23	Early Solutioning
Oct 30	Regulatory Basics
Nov 6	Legal Considerations
Nov 13	Business Planning
Nov 20	Closing Session/Pitch Evaluation Activity



# TRANSLATING DISCOVERIES TO THE BEDSIDE: A MEDICAL DEVICES COURSE



- Core curriculum of Academic Entrepreneurship content – taught by experts in the field
- Case-based activities and team-based project work using real-life medical devices
- Opportunities to connect with like-minded individuals from across academia and industry
- Personalized training and mentorship to pursue a career focused on medical devices and academic entrepreneurship (up to 2 years of support for qualifying participants)

[research.chop.edu/service/medical-device-course](https://research.chop.edu/service/medical-device-course)

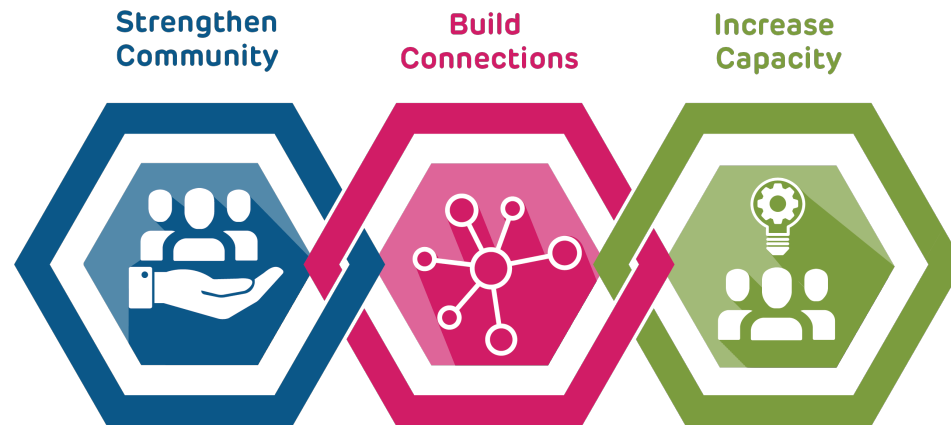
## EXPERTISE KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM (EKP)



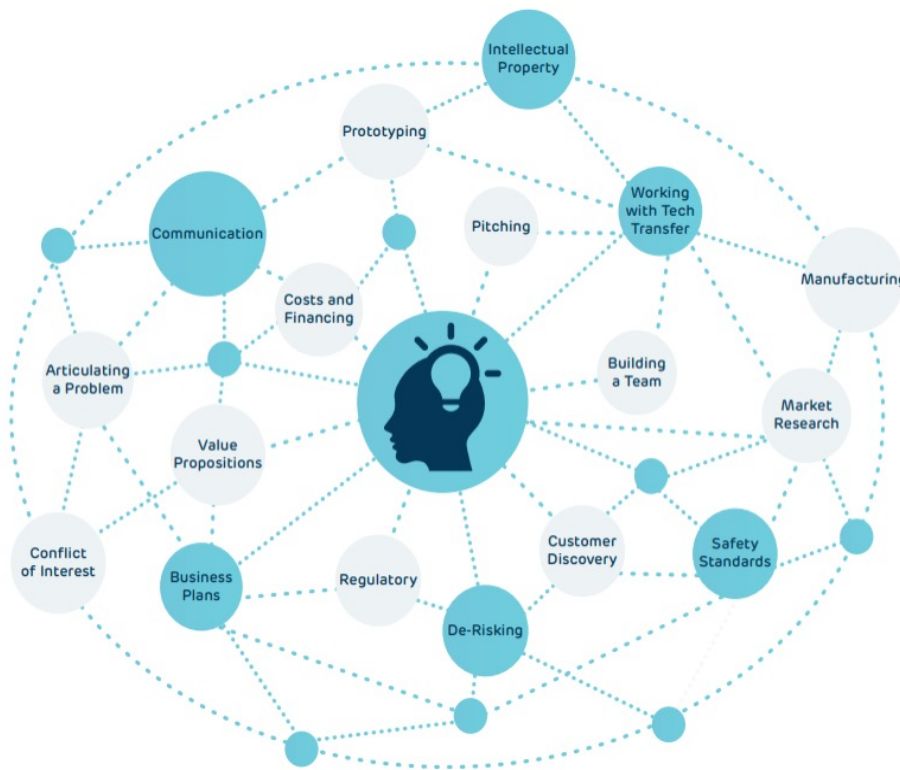
- An up-to-date, searchable database of institutional research expertise that links together the CHOP employee database, electronic Sponsored Projects Administration (eSPA), PubMed, NIH Reporter
- Can be used to conduct keyword searches (much like PubMed) that
  - Find subject matter experts
  - Generate summary reports that can be filtered & refined, or downloaded to Excel
  - Get a “360° view” of any individual’s expertise and research products (grants & papers)

# OUR MISSION

- Facilitate innovation by preparing CHOP faculty and staff via opportunities to **strengthen community**, **build connections**, and **increase capacity** related to innovation and entrepreneurship



# WHAT IS ACADEMIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP: ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES



- Involvement with clinical trials
- Included an innovation-specific aim in a grant application
- Met with Office of Technology Transfer
- Discussed with or Submitted to the FDA
- Written or collaborated on a business plan
- Held a consulting role for a business
- Applied for or an accelerator program

**What activities have you done or plan to do that might relate to Academic Entrepreneurship?**



# CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Apply for the Health Tech Accelerator Program by November 5, 2025



*Selected medtech and healthtech teams receive up to \$75k funding and one year of advising to support development, commercialization, and more.*

## Virtual Information Session

- Tuesday, October 14th at 12p
- Details about the program & application process.
- [Register here](#)

INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM

# STAY IN TOUCH WITH IE



SUBSCRIBE TO OUR  
NEWSLETTER



FOLLOW US ON  
LINKEDIN



CONNECT TO  
ACADENT COMMUNITY



VISIT OUR RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE WEBPAGE

<https://www.research.chop.edu/innovation-ecosystem>

[ecosystem@chop.edu](mailto:ecosystem@chop.edu)



# THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING

Please fill out our brief post-session survey at [redcap.link/AE1013](https://redcap.link/AE1013)  
or scan the QR code below:

