Research&Innovation

Center for Technology Licensing

TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION REPORT

FY2025

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

Fiscal Year 2025 was a year of substantial progress for Cornell's Center for Technology Licensing (CTL). This annual report goes beyond metrics—we are proud to share the narratives behind those numbers, spotlighting the inventors, startups, and partnerships that make innovation possible.

Twenty new startups based on university technologies were launched, the highest in Cornell history, bringing the **five-year total to 75**. Our overall startup portfolio collectively raised **$450 million in FY25**—a strong result given the current climate—contributing to more than **$2.4 billion** raised over the past five years. We executed **93 licenses and options in FY25**, forging partnerships with both established corporations and emerging ventures. The featured inventor story of **Professor Iwijn De Vlaminck** illustrates how Cornell innovations succeed through both licensing agreements and startup creation.

We continued to strengthen pathways for early-stage technologies through gap funding programs. The **Ignite** gap funding series, featured in the first **Ignite Impact Report** released alongside this annual report, has become a cornerstone of Cornell's innovation ecosystem. Ignite has generated more than **$42 of follow-on funding for every $1 invested**, **38 new licenses and options** have been executed for technology commercialization, and **32 startups** have secured significant funding for growth. At Weill Cornell Medicine, the **Catalyst Fund** was launched to support multiple asset pillars at different development stages, helping accelerate development across the board.

These successes reflect the close engagement with Cornell inventors. We modernized the disclosure process by launching a **new online system** that streamlines intake and reduces administrative burden for inventors across all campuses. We also strengthened engagement through programs such as **Cornell Innovation & Venture Advisors (CIVA)** and the **Lab to Impact** event series, building deeper connections between researchers, industry leaders, and investors.

What makes these accomplishments more meaningful is that they were achieved under challenging circumstances. Amid a university-wide hiring pause and financial constraints, our team performed while understaffed and under-resourced. That **resilience** speaks to the strength of Cornell's innovation community and its unwavering commitment to impact.

Looking ahead, we are optimistic. CTL is establishing a **OneCornell** portfolio framework across **13 technology and industry pillars** to improve strategic management and marketing, leveraging gap funding to de-risk early-stage innovations, and supporting partners to accelerate commercialization. Our goal remains clear: to translate discoveries into solutions that improve lives, strengthen industry partnerships, and generate returns that fuel reinvestment in research.

Alice Li
Executive Director
Center for Technology Licensing

Lisa Placanica
Senior Managing Director
CTL at Weill Cornell Medicine

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover photo:

Iwijn De Vlaminck, associate professor in the Meinig School of Biomedical Engineering, and Hao Shi, co-founder of Kanvas Biosciences, work at the Center for Life Science Ventures, advancing precision medicine technologies developed at Cornell toward real-world applications.

FACTS & FIGURES FY25

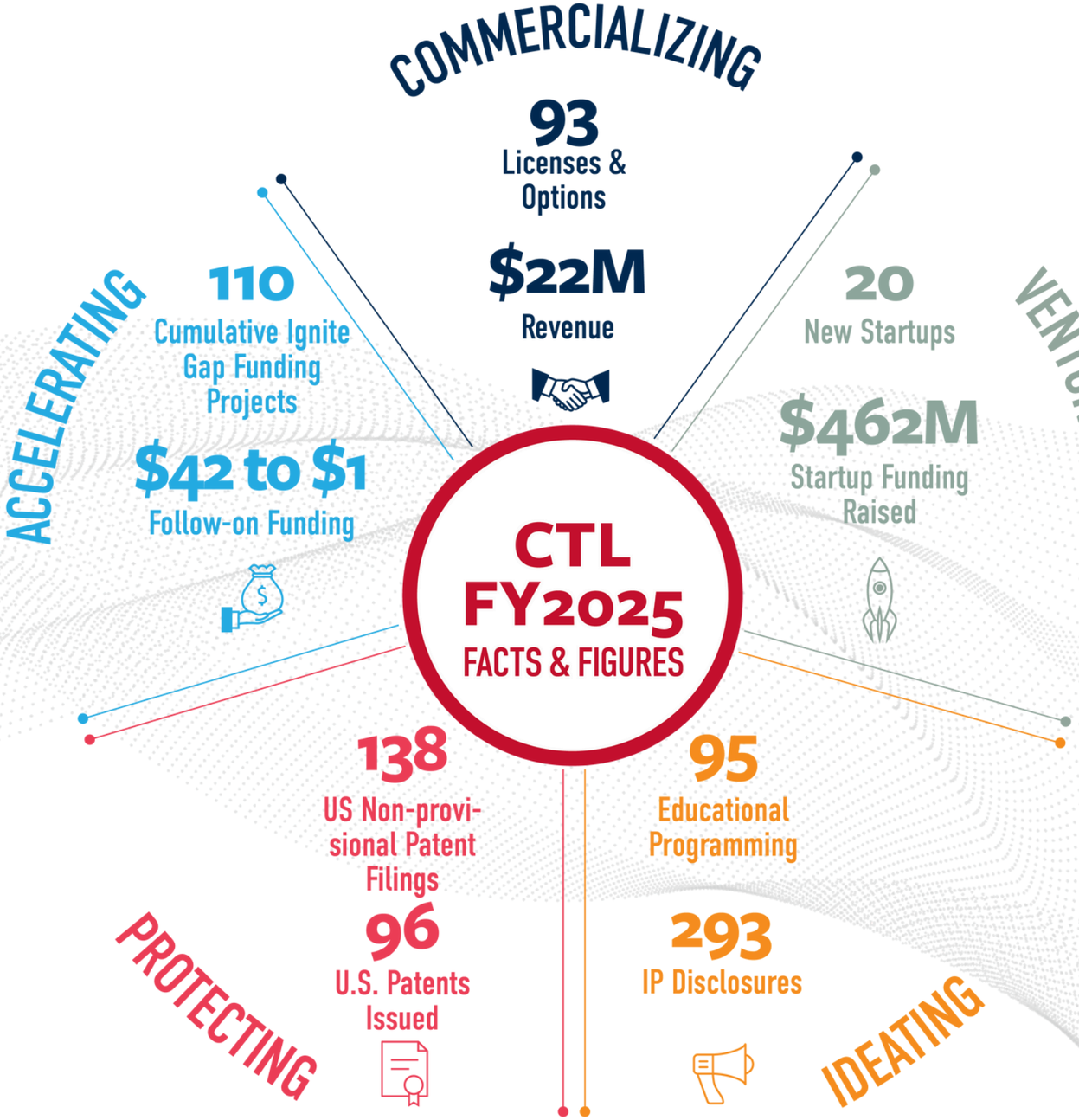
Five-year Overview
FY2021 - 2025

497
Licenses & Options

$122M
Revenue generated

75
New startups

$2.4B
Startup funding raised



Commercial Reach & Impact
Snapshot

880+	Active licenses encompassing **1,150+ technologies**
540+	Industry partners
4.2K+	Active patents and patent applications U.S. and foreign
$5.4B+	Cumulative startup funding raised

FEATURED INVENTOR FY25: PROFESSOR IWIJN DE VLAMINCK

Advancing partnerships and startups to maximize chance of commercial success

At Cornell, innovation thrives when research follows a clear path to market. Associate Professor Iwijn De Vlaminck exemplifies this approach. Known for his pioneering work in precision medicine technologies, De Vlaminck doesn't just invent — he actively engages to help shape how discoveries reach industry and patients.

From the earliest stages of technology development, De Vlaminck has partnered closely with the Center for Technology Licensing (CTL), contributing to intellectual property protection, market strategy and engagement with industry. His proactive involvement ensures that promising inventions advance through the most effective commercialization pathway—whether through licensing to established corporations or launching new ventures.

That balanced perspective sets him apart. De Vlaminck supports each technology based on its merits and market potential, resulting in a portfolio that spans both worlds. His lab's RNA technology was licensed to Illumina in FY25, and an earlier agreement with Eurofins Genomics extended Cornell's impact in molecular diagnostics. These partnerships bring Cornell innovations to researchers and clinicians worldwide.

"My motivation is to ensure that our lab's innovations don't stop at papers and grants, but ultimately reach the real world and improve human health. The Center for Technology Licensing has been an invaluable partner in helping make this happen. There is still much work ahead—and that's exactly what excites me."

At the same time, De Vlaminck is a dynamic entrepreneur. He co-founded Kanvas Biosciences, a successful startup advancing microbiome-based therapeutics, and recently launched Romix Biosciences with Dr. Conor Loy, an Ignite Fellow for New Ventures, who graduated in August 2025. By leveraging gap funding and startup resources at Cornell, he accelerates the transition from concept to company—demonstrating how Cornell faculty can leverage the innovation ecosystem to turn ideas into ventures that attract investment and drive product development.

De Vlaminck's story is a model for innovation at Cornell: engage early, collaborate deeply with tech transfer and industry, and support the commercialization path that maximizes impact. His commitment to translating science into solutions—through both industry partnerships and startups—shows what's possible when inventors embrace flexibility and work hand-in-hand with Cornell's innovation ecosystem.

An image of the gut microbiome in the mouse intestine generated using a patented sequencing method developed in the laboratory of Iwijn De Vlaminck, associate professor in the Meinig School of Biomedical Engineering at Cornell University. Image courtesy of the De Vlaminck Lab.

COMMERCIALIZATION HIGHLIGHTS

In FY25, Cornell technologies continued to make impact, with new offerings entering the market, regulatory approvals advancing patient care, and established products reaching wider adoption. These outcomes reflect years of research, intellectual property protection, and sustained partnerships with industry, supported by CTL's work to move innovations into real-world application.

New products in the market

DryFiber, a Cornell startup, launched its non-fluorinated oil/water repellent material, offering a safer, high-performance alternative to conventional PFAS-based coatings. Its new strategic partnership with AGC Chemicals positions the platform for large-scale adoption.
Press release →

"Excited to see DryFiber demonstrate our fluorine-free technology at scale, building on innovations developed at Cornell. I am confident it will continue to outperform existing alternatives and drive successful adoption in the market." Emmanuel P. Giannelis, Associate Dean for Innovation, Walter R. Read Professor of Engineering.

Elanco, a global animal health leader, received U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) approval for TruCan™ Canine Influenza Vaccine, built on Cornell technology to provide a higher standard of respiratory protection for dogs. This is a key addition to Elanco's vaccine portfolio to address respiratory disease outbreaks.
Press release →

Regulatory approval

Weill Cornell Medicine startup Fesarius Therapeutics achieved FDA 510(k) clearance for a novel hydrogel device designed to support healing in full-thickness skin loss — bringing a next-generation wound treatment closer to clinical use.

"As a surgeon and innovator, translating an idea from the operating room into a real-world solution can be daunting. The support and guidance from the people at CTL was instrumental —they not only helped protect my invention but also helped connect me with the right partners and resources to grow my startup into a thriving company bridging medicine and innovation," Jason Spector, MD, Professor of Surgery at Weill Cornell Medicine

Products growth

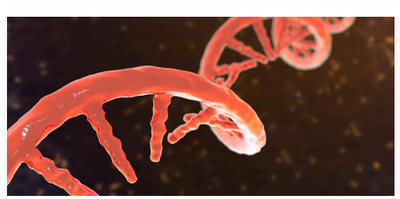
Lamoka has set the standard for a chipping potato variety. Over the course of the last five years, Lamoka's market penetration has increased significantly, with product sales growth of over 270%. Because of its excellent long storage capability and frying color, it is used by major processors such as Utz and Herr's.

"Lamoka is currently the most widely grown chip potato variety in the USA, and the 7th most widely grown potato variety overall. We are proud to support US potato farmers and industry," Walter De Jong, Professor, School of Integrative Plant Science

Cornell's Geneva® apple rootstocks dominate the US market, representing approximately 65% of the annual sales. Geneva® apple rootstocks are making inroads into previously untapped nursery markets in other apple growing regions. The first 100,000 Geneva® apple rootstocks are expected to be sold in the Himachal Pradesh and Kashmir region in India which represent the first sale of Indian-produced rootstocks in these major growing regions. This will enable Indian orchards to be converted into modern high-density orchards.

"Higher productivity through the implementation of higher density apple rootstocks is only one of the many improvements that come with Geneva® rootstocks and we're excited to provide further improvements to the worldwide nurseries and growers," Terence Robinson, Professor, School of Integrative Plant Science.

New license with industry partner



An RNA technology from the De Vlamink Lab in the Meinig School of Biomedical Engineering was licensed to Illumina.

STARTUP HIGHLIGHTS

Cornell's record year in startup formation marked a defining moment in FY25, with 20 new IP-based companies launched, more than in any prior year. These ventures, alongside established startups that advanced through acquisitions, funding rounds, and key commercialization milestones, demonstrate the depth and momentum of the university's innovation pipeline and new venture.

FY25 Startups

EchoICs is designing cutting-edge integrated circuits for high-performance wireless and mixed-signal applications.
Technology: Alyssa Apsel Lab

Forage Evolution is engineering a bacterial platform that accelerates genetic engineering through natural DNA uptake.
Technology: Buz Barstow Lab

Montage Bio is pioneering next-generation immunology and inflammation therapeutics using genomic insights.
Technology: Dan Landau Lab

"Jamie and the tech transfer team have been collaborative, exacting, and genuinely supportive. This year brought multiple exciting IP applications, major licensing, and a new spinoff, all while allowing the scientists to stay focused on science. Together we're turning ideas into IP and IP into impact."

Mav Unlimited is building soft robotic systems to advance prosthetics, wearables, and human–machine interaction.
Technology: Rob Shepherd Lab

Gallox Semiconductors is creating gallium oxide semiconductor devices for more powerful and efficient electronics.
Technology: Debdeep Jena and Huili Grace Xing Lab

SensVita is building AI-driven biosensor platforms for rapid detection and personalized health monitoring. Currently incubated at Cornell Tech's Runway program.
Technology: Edwin Kan Lab

Cliqe

A Cornell Tech Runway program startup at the Jacobs Institute.

Rheo Nexa is developing minimally invasive vascular devices to treat complex blood flow disorders.
Technology: Yves Gobin Lab

"Working with the Center for Technology Licensing was a very positive experience. The team was efficient, transparent, acted in the spirit of advancing the technology, and was truly supportive of faculty entrepeneurship. The process was smooth and founder-friendly, a true partnership."

Oscillate Photonics is developing ultrafast laser and photonic systems for advanced imaging and communications.
Technology: Frank Wise Lab

Persista Bio is revolutionizing cell therapy treatment for Type 1 diabetes.
Technology: Minglin Ma Lab

Providentia Technologies is discovering new therapeutics with innovative approaches to drug targeting and design.
Technology: Olaf Anderson Lab

Quantera Analytical is advancing high-precision chemical analysis tools for energy and environmental applications.
Technology: Gavin Sacks Lab

Ultinat

Creating functional food and nutrition technologies to enhance health and wellness.
Technology: Alireza Abbaspourrad Lab

Serida is delivering clean-energy and climate technologies for resilient and sustainable communities.
Technology: Max Zhang Lab

2025 record year
technology licensed startups

Sanexus
Digitally delivering a personalized, supportive care for cancer patients (formerly Prehab). **A Cornell Tech Runway program startup at the Jacobs Institute.**

Iriscience
Iriscience integrates AR/VR and AI into slit lamps to enable remote eye exams and expand access to vision care in clinics and underserved areas. **A Cornell Tech Runway program startup at the Jacobs Institute.**

SIMULACRUM
Simulacrum is developing an AI software time-series foundation model research and deployment company. **A Cornell Tech Runway program startup at the Jacobs Institute.**

Vescor Therapeutics
Advancing novel immunotherapies for autoimmune and inflammatory diseases.
Technology: Juan Cubillo Ruiz Lab

medara
Medara aims to improve early breast cancer detection using cutting-edge AI. **A Cornell Tech Runway program startup at the Jacobs Institute.**

Criterion Food Group
Developing advanced food processing solutions to improve nutrition and sustainability.
Technology: Syed Rizvi Lab

Acquired startups

Bactana, a Cornell-licensed startup developing microbiome-based solutions for livestock and companion animal health, was acquired by **Kemin Industries**, a global leader in ingredients for human and animal nutrition. The acquisition marks a major commercialization milestone for Cornell-originated innovations and will accelerate the path for Bactana's products to enter large-scale global markets.

Press release →

Halo Labs, formerly Optofluidics, develops analytical instruments that help scientists assess the stability and purity of biological drugs. By detecting tiny particles that can affect the safety and effectiveness of protein-based therapeutics, the system can develop treatments for several diseases. Acquired by **Waters Corporation**, Halo will expand its technology into a broader portfolio of tools supporting global biopharmaceutical research.

Press release →

Fundraising, development and commercialization milestones

XyloCor Therapeutics raised $67.5 million in Series B financing to advance its cardiovascular gene therapy into Phase II clinical trials, strengthening a therapeutic approach that may serve millions of patients with stubborn heart disease.

Cleerly secured $106 million, further expanding its AI-powered cardiac diagnostics platform used in major hospital systems.

Cornell's microbiome-focused startup **Kanvas Biosciences**, co-founded by Iwijn De Vlaminck, closed a $12.5 million Series A, advancing live biotherapeutics that aim to improve cancer immunotherapy outcomes.

Exostellar raised its Series A1 to scale its autonomous compute orchestration platform — technology positioned to ease GPU shortages and support data-intensive industries.

Convergent Therapeutics, founded on research from Weill Cornell Medicine, initiated a Phase II clinical trial for its radiopharmaceutical targeting advanced prostate cancer.

Bionic Sight, co-founded by Sheila Nirenberg, Ph.D., professor of Physiology and Biophysics at Weill Cornell, received FDA Regenerative Medicine Advanced Therapy (RMAT) designation for its gene therapy to treat blindness.

Affyimmune Therapeutics earned the RMAT designation for its novel CAR-T therapy for recurrent anaplastic thyroid cancer.

Novita Pharmaceuticals published positive data readout of its Phase II trial for a novel treatment for advanced metastatic solid tumors.

Ava Labs, a blockchain company built around research first conducted at Cornell and the creator of the Avalanche blockchain platform, expanded real-world deployments — including deed recording across 70+ municipalities in New Jersey.

TETMedical raised $6 million and launched clinical trials across six hospital sites.

Ecolectro, a leader in renewable hydrogen, raised $10.6 million in Series A funding and partnered with Re:Build Manufacturing to scale and deploy it's advanced anion exchange membrane (AEM) electrolyzers across the US.

ADVANCING INNOVATIONS THROUGH GAP FUNDING

Cornell's gap funding programs are designed to propel early-stage technologies across the critical "valley of death," providing milestone-driven support that reduces technical and commercial risk and accelerates translation. This framework ensures that high-potential discoveries mature into deployable solutions with clear pathways to licensing, partnerships, and venture growth.

The Ignite Gap Funding Series, Impact Report

The inaugural **Ignite Impact Report** was released alongside the FY25 Annual Report. Reimagined in FY2021 with expanded scope and resources, Ignite has become a catalyst for innovation—bridging the gap between research and commercialization and creating new opportunities for inventors, entrepreneurs, and partners.

We encourage readers to explore the complete Ignite Impact Report.

The impact of the gap funding series has been remarkable. Ignite-supported projects have attracted $231 million in follow-on funding, reflecting a 42:1 ratio to every Ignite dollar invested; 38 new licenses and options have been executed for technology commercialization; and 32 startups have secured significant funding for growth.

ignite Innovation Acceleration

Ignite Innovation Acceleration provides competitive grants to inventors, helping advance Cornell inventions toward licensing, startup formation, or industry partnerships. The program runs two application cycles each year. Annually, 10 to 16 projects receive awards of up to $50,000.

Cumulative Outcomes of Innovation Acceleration

70+
Projects completed across **8 Cornell colleges**

32
Licenses and options executed for Innovation Acceleration supported projects

$64.4M
Follow-on funding generated

14 projects awarded in FY25

ignite Fellow for New Ventures

Ignite Fellow for New Ventures is a unique venture accelerator model that combines entrepreneurial training with technology acceleration. With 3 to 6 Fellows selected per cohort, each Fellow receives support at an annual rate of approximately $120,000, which converts into the principal of a SAFE note upon company formation, giving the team the momentum to build and launch a company.

Cumulative Outcomes for Fellows since 2022

18
Fellows (past and current) funded through the program

14
New ventures incorporated

8
Raised significant funding
and are operating independently with more in progress

4 Fellows joined the third cohort in FY25

ignite Startup Projects

Ignite Startup Projects provides early funding through SAFE notes to help Cornell-founded startups reach important development milestones and strengthen their ability to raise external capital. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, and each year up to 4 to 10 startups receive awards of up to $75,000.

Cumulative Outcomes for Startup Projects

$162M
Follow-on funding raised

69%
Companies secured significant external funding

50%
Headquartered in New York State

7 Startups were funded in FY25

We invite you to explore the full **Ignite Impact Report**. Readers will find features from faculty innovators, Fellows, and startup founders—including those behind **Soctera, Gallox, LLUME, EchoICs, Romix, IVSonance, Anova, TETMedical, Ecolectro**, and many others. Visit here →

Enterprise Innovation Catalyst Fund

Weill Cornell Medicine has launched the Enterprise Innovation Catalyst Fund, an expanded version of the long-standing Daedalus Fund, to strengthen support for early-stage research and accelerate commercialization. Made possible by a generous gift from Richard and Amy Ruben, the Catalyst Fund creates an umbrella structure for three tiers of gap funding — Proto Stage, Breakout Stage, and Validation Stage — designed to help inventors validate ideas, de-risk technologies, and prepare projects for industry and investor partnerships.

The program builds on more than a decade of Daedalus' success and broadens Enterprise Innovation's ability to retain expert consultants, engage external advisors, and deliver tailored educational programming.

Learn more about the program's launch →

EMERGING INNOVATIONS & IP PROTECTION

In FY25, CTL worked with faculty across campuses to protect early discoveries with strong commercial potential. The innovations featured here reflect the depth of Cornell research and how protected ideas can evolve into future therapies, agricultural advancements, and market-ready technologies.

Magnet Actuated Cranial (M.A.C) Bioresorbable Distraction System – Dr. Mohammed Fouda, Fellow in Neurological Surgery, Weill Cornell Medicine

Dr. Mohammed Fouda has created a bioresorbable, magnet-actuated device to safely expand the skulls of children with craniosynostosis—without external hardware. This technology offers a safer, lower-risk surgical option that could reduce complications and improve access to care worldwide.

"Such collaborations could deliver a more streamlined and economically feasible neurosurgical solution to our patients, particularly within resource-constrained regions globally."

Programmable mRNA translation by synthetic trans-RNA – Shu-Bing Qian, Ph.D., James Jamison Professor of Nutritional Sciences, College of Human Ecology

This platform introduces synthetic trans-RNAs that can direct ribosomes to selectively activate the translation of specific mRNAs—without altering the original genetic sequence. The technology opens new possibilities for precisely controlling protein production in cells, with broad applications across therapeutic development, synthetic biology, and biotechnology.

Microbial Biosynthesis of High-Value Bioactive Compounds – Elizabeth Johnson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Nutritional Sciences, CALS

Professor Elizabeth Johnson is engineering modified gut bacteria to produce rare, high-value bioactive compounds used in cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. This microbial platform could dramatically reduce production costs while enabling more effective formulations for anti-aging and therapeutic applications.

Vascularized Islet Transplantation Therapy for Type 1 Diabetes – Dr. Shahin Rafii, Arthur B. Belfer Professor in Genetic Medicine and Professor of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine

Dr. Shahin Rafii has developed a method for transplanting stem-cell–derived islets together with specialized endothelial cells that support blood vessel formation. This approach significantly improves islet survival and insulin secretion, advancing a promising path toward more durable treatments for type 1 diabetes.

Dual AR-V7/AR-fl Molecular Glue Degrader for Prostate Cancer Treatment – Dr. Paraskevi (Evi) Giannakakou, Professor of Pharmacology in Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine

Dr. Giannakakou's team is developing a first-in-class molecular glue degrader that targets both full-length androgen receptors and the AR-V7 splice variant, a key driver of resistance in advanced prostate cancer. The team is optimizing the lead compound and generating preclinical data to support future partnerships and clinical development.

"I am very grateful for Daedalus [gap] funding because it is coming at a critical point in our project where we are performing key in vivo experiments that will help de-risk our technology"

Lymph-Node-Derived T Cells for Solid Tumor Immunotherapy – Jonathan Villena-Vargas, Assistant Professor of Clinical Cardiothoracic Surgery, Weill Cornell Medicine

Dr. Jonathan Villena-Vargas is developing a new immunotherapy approach using stem-like T cells sourced from tumor-draining lymph nodes to better target solid tumors. By overcoming key barriers seen in traditional CAR-T therapies, this strategy could open new treatment options for patients with resistant lung cancer.

RNA-Guided Transposons – Joseph Peters, Ph.D., Department Chair and Professor of Microbiology, CALS

Professor Joseph Peters and his team are developing a new gene-editing approach that inserts complex DNA sequences at precise locations without cutting both strands of DNA. Inspired by natural bacterial systems, this technology could enable safer genetic therapies, improved cancer treatment strategies, and powerful new tools for agricultural biotechnology.

These emerging technologies illustrate the extraordinary depth and breadth of innovation across Cornell's campuses. Explore more technologies available for licensing →

INITIATIVES

CTL launched several initiatives this year that strengthen coordination across Cornell's campuses and streamline the path from discovery to market. These efforts improve how technologies are managed and marketed, simplify the disclosure process for researchers, and provide industry partners and potential funders with clearer insight into startup opportunities.

Technology pillars for OneCornell portfolio

CTL launched a university-wide framework to strategically organize technologies by industry pillars, improving coordination, management, and marketing across campuses. This structure will guide future licensing and portfolio development.

The 13 pillars are:

- MedTech
- Therapeutics
- Animal Health
- Plant Varieties
- Social Sciences
- Optics & Imaging
- Agriculture & Food
- Energy & Environment
- Chemicals & Materials
- Electronics & Computing
- Biotech Research Tools & Reagents
- Digital & Information Technology
- Advanced Manufacturing & Automation

New IP tools

CTL modernized its operations to make it easier for innovators to disclose and protect their ideas.

● Online Disclosure Form:

Streamlined and consistent across campuses, reducing administrative burden and fully integrated with CTL's database. Successfully beta-tested and launched in 2025.

● E-signatures for IP Documents:

Implemented across all campuses and law firms, saving time and simplifying IP paperwork.

Startup investment brief

CTL launched the Startup Investment Brief in FY25 to facilitate fundraising for Cornell technology startups and to strengthen investor relationships around Cornell's research-driven innovations. Issued twice a year,

the brief highlights startups actively seeking early-stage funding,

supporting efforts to increase visibility and engagement for Cornell technology ventures. The inaugural edition featured 12 startups and reached more than 150 investors.

Request to be included →

OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS

This year, CTL consolidated and refocused engagement efforts across Cornell's campuses and beyond, bringing researchers, industry partners, investors, and entrepreneurs together to accelerate the path from discovery to impact. Through diverse outreach events and programs, CTL created several touchpoints for innovators to receive guidance, build connections, and advance their technologies toward commercialization.

Cornell Innovation & Venture Advisors (CIVA)

CIVA is an exclusive community of industry experts and investors who receive a first look at emerging technologies and venture opportunities from the Center for Technology Licensing (CTL) and Weill Cornell's Enterprise Innovation.

Each quarter, members:

- Join a one-hour virtual session featuring **three parallel presentations** from Cornell inventors.
- Select a breakout room aligned with their expertise, spanning **therapeutics, medical devices, engineering, materials, energy, agriculture, food, and research tools.**
- Provide feedback on **market opportunities, commercial strategy, and development milestones.**
- **Build relationships** that strengthen the commercialization prospects for Cornell innovators.

CIVA by the numbers:

42	160	15	13
Innovations presented at CIVA *Since its inception in 2022*	External CIVA members	Presentations in FY25	Follow-on funding

CIVA members receive:

- Direct engagement between inventors and investors
- Early access to emerging Cornell technologies
- Opportunity to engage the next-generation of founders

Learn more and join →

Bearers of Innovation - Digital campaign

In FY25, as a function of Resilient Cornell, CTL reimagined the **Bearers of Innovation: A One Cornell Celebration** from an in-person celebration to a digital storytelling campaign spotlighting inventors who submitted their first invention disclosures and those who licensed a technology in FY24. Through a multi-week LinkedIn campaign, CTL highlighted faculty across technology pillars, reinforcing the importance of early engagement with IP protection.

Lab to Impact: IP & Commercialization Series

LabtoImpact

CTL IP & Commercialization Series

The Lab to Impact Series is CTL's cornerstone educational program designed to equip Cornell researchers and innovators with the knowledge, tools, and confidence to engage in commercialization. In FY25, the series was revamped into four focused learning modules, expanding access and tailoring guidance to different innovation pathways:

- Intellectual Property: Topics include invention disclosures, patents, and protection strategy
- Commercialization & Venture Insights: Topics include licensing, startup formation, and investor readiness
- Healthcare Roadmap: Topics include regulatory, prototyping and design, reimbursement, and clinical translation
- Social Science Roadmap: Topics include societal impact translation

Lab to impact by the numbers:

9	320+
Lab to Impact events in FY25	Attendees

Special Lab to Impact: Thought Leader Series

This special presentation brings leading voices in technology and commercialization to Cornell innovators. This year's featured speaker was Emin Gün Sirer, founder and CEO of Ava Labs, who discussed emerging trends in blockchain and its evolving applications. The session offered researchers practical insights into how breakthrough technologies move from concept to global impact.

Watch the 2025 recordings →

Join an upcoming event →

Ignite Connect 2025

Ignite Connect is CTL's flagship annual virtual partnering program highlighting a curated portfolio of university-born technologies and venture teams that have progressed beyond concept validation and into investable projects. Presenters are recipients of the **Ignite** or **Catalyst Fund**, competitive gap-funding programs designed to de-risk Cornell's early technologies, validate market hypotheses, and advance projects past technical or commercial inflection points.

Through live pitch sessions, inventors and founders highlight their projects poised for licensing, partnership, or venture formation.

The 2025 program featured technologies and startups across four sectors:

- Therapeutics
- MedTech
- Energy & Environment
- Engineering & Digital Technologies

Ignite Connect 2025 by the numbers:

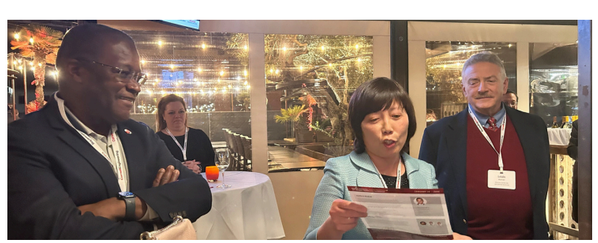
16 Presentations | **150+** Attendees | **20+** Networking sessions

Watch the 2025 recordings →

Join the upcoming Ignite Connect virtual event →

Cornell Executive Dinner at JP Morgan Healthcare Conference 2025

Each year, CTL partners with the Center for Life Science Ventures and the College of Engineering to create reception and dinner networking opportunities that leverage the collection of stakeholders in San Francisco for the JP Morgan Healthcare conference and foster relationships between Cornell startups, investors, and industry partners.



Office Hours - Commercialization support across campuses

CTL Office Hours provide accessible, one-on-one guidance for:

- New invention disclosures
- IP strategy and patent questions
- Licensing discussions
- Startup and partnership support

2025 Office Hours by the numbers:

81 1-1 sessions held | **100+** Faculty supported | **60+** Technologies advanced

Biomedical Innovation Conference (BioInnovate)

Weill Cornell Medicine's flagship biomedical innovation conference brings together scientists, founders, investors, and industry leaders to explore how discoveries move from research to patient care through founder pitches, expert panels, and high-impact networking.

BioInnovate by the numbers:

203 Attendees | **50** Investors & industry partners represented | **70** Introductory meetings

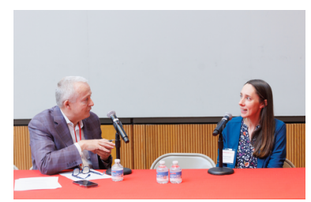
Inspiring Futures Mixer at Entrepreneurship at Cornell's Celebration Ezra

In collaboration with the Cornell Ann S. Bowers College of Computing and Information Science, the Engineering Career Center, and Blackstone LaunchPad at Cornell, we came together to celebrate innovation, resilience, and inclusive entrepreneurship.

Inspiring Futures Mixer by the numbers:

70+ Attendees | **15+** Cornell-affiliated startups highlighted

Dean's Symposium on Innovation & Entrepreneurship



An annual gathering that spotlights real-world commercialization journeys of Weill Cornell Medicine clinicians and scientists—from invention and IP to startup formation and patient impact—through panels and fireside conversations.

Dean's Symposium by the numbers:

8th Annual symposium | **8** Faculty inventors featured | **90** Attendees from research, clinical care and industry

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CTL CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGY LICENSING AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY