



# The Gryphon's LAAIR: Leading to Accelerated Adoption of Innovative Research

## Funding research for the commercialization of innovative R&D

Returning after last year's successful call, the Gryphon's LAAIR funding program launched a call for letters of intent in January 2015. Like last year, researchers could apply for funding from two streams Product Development Grants (early stage technology fund up to \$25,000) or Commercial Development Grants (late stage technology fund up to \$125,000).

On April 22, 2015 finalists from the Commercial Development Grants stream were put to the test, pitching their commercialization projects to industry panelists (otherwise known as 'the Gryphons'). The finalists were provided an opportunity to participate in a seminar to develop the style, method and content of their 'Commercialization Presentation' before their April 22<sup>nd</sup> pitch.

The eight researchers each gave strong pitches and responded well to the challenging questions posed by the Gryphons'.



All together, 15 projects totaling \$812,000 were awarded funding between the two streams (see table below).

Researchers will be completing reports as they complete their projects and you can follow along with their progress by searching here:  
[http://www.uoguelph.ca/omafra\\_partnership/en/Projects/search.aspx](http://www.uoguelph.ca/omafra_partnership/en/Projects/search.aspx)

Primary Investigator	Title
	Product Exploration Grants
Robert Hanner	Pre-Harvest Oligonucleotide Tagging for Plant Product Traceability
Lucy Mutharia	Developing a pathogen-specific multi-epitope peptide for diagnosis of subclinical Johnes disease
Rod Merrill	Control of Paenibacillus Larvae, the Causative Agent of American Foulbrood in Honeybees
Michael Dixon	Commercial field trial combining UV and ozone technologies in an advanced oxidation process for the treatment of recirculating greenhouse irrigation water
Wael Ahmed	Efficient Airlift Pump for Sustainable Aquaculture Systems
Steffen Graether	Novel use of natural protein formulations for frost protection in sensitive high-value crops
John Prescott	Prevalence of Clostridium perfringens necrotizing enteritis in foals in Ontario, and perceived value of mare immunization to prevent disease
Nigel Bunce	Electrochemical Oxidation of Greenhouse Hydroponic Wastes
Todd Gillis	Validating the use of cardiac troponin I as a blood biomarker of animal health in aquaculture species
Ming Fan	Selectively Using a Porous Biomass Carrier for Enhancing Feed Enzyme Thermostability
	Commercial Development Grants
Medhat Moussa	Field testing and validation of Greenhouse Robotics System
Emma Allen-Vercoe	Enhancing Porcine Health and Production Value using Microbiome Therapeutics
George van der Merwe	Creating a competitive advantage for Ontario craft beer through the use of novel regional yeast strains
Bonnie Mallard	Genetic Selection for Disease Resistance: Adapting Immunity+ /High Immune Response (HIR) Technology for Application in the Beef Industry
Max Jones	3D printed custom bioreactors for large scale plant propagation

For more information on the Gryphon's LAAIR Program:  
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