June 2017

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | Office of Governmental Relations

# Launch a Business program selects 11 Kansas startup ventures to receive resources for success

The Center for the Advancement of Entrepreneurship has selected 11 high-potential startup ventures for participation in the university's fourth annual Launch a Business (LAB) program, powered by KS State Bank.

The selected businesses will take part in a month-long summer program, receiving much-needed resources, including faculty-led workshops, hands-on student research teams and access to the university's world-class alumni mentor network. The program is specifically intended for early-stage companies and will provide the building blocks for turning a concept into a successful venture.

"K-State LAB is designed to support promising entrepreneurs with the university's unique resources to help advance their business concept and ultimately create jobs in Kansas," said Chad Jackson, director of the college's Center for the Advancement of Entrepreneurship. "We have been thrilled with the overwhelming support and interest we have received for this program over the years, and look forward to working with these entrepreneurs to make this year event better."

Criteria for selection included identifying a real problem and an innovative solution, demonstrating the drive to succeed and ability to incorporate feedback, and showing commitment to the idea and the Launch a Business program.

The following 11 startup ventures were selected for the 2017 program:

- Rev-E3, Beloit
- Double L Manufacturing, Clay Center
- Flint Hills Lavender Farm, Council Grove
- Heartland Heritage, Derby
- Bridges, Manhattan
- Pinnacle Performance, Manhattan
- Pip's Bake Shoppe, Manhattan
- Precision Microwave, Manhattan
- Embruon, Salina
- MperVus, Shawnee

- Print3 Technologies, Shawnee

## Largest Chinese animal vaccine company to add labs, offices in Manhattan

The largest animal vaccine company in China announced May 31 that it will open a research lab and offices in theKansas State University Office Park, which is on the north side of the Manhattan campus.

Officials for Jinyu Bio-technology Co. Ltd. said this is the first time the company has established facilities in the United States. The company will focus on the research and design of vaccines for swine and cattle, as well as developing educational materials for Chinese companies and veterinarians.

The company has researched the Manhattan location for nearly two years and was drawn to its connection with the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor, which stretches from Manhattan to Columbia, Missouri. It is home to more than 300 animal health companies, which account for more than half of the sales generated annually by the global animal health industry.

"The addition of Jinyu Bio-technology to the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor is truly a partnership of innovation and expertise," said Antonio Soave, secretary of the Kansas Department of Commerce. "We, as a state, must continue to engage excellent biotech companies like Jinyu, as Kansas continues to become one of the leading locations for bioscience in the nation."

Jinyu's Manhattan operations will be located in Phase II of the Kansas State University Office Park, which is scheduled to break ground in July. The company will begin operations in 2018.

## 'Marlin Fitzwater: From Wheat Fields to White House' exhibit heads to the Eisenhower Presidential Library

A new temporary exhibit, "Marlin Fitzwater: From Wheat Fields to White House," opened at the Eisenhower Presidential Library in Abilene on May 12.

The exhibit was created in collaboration with K-State Libraries, and it will remain on display until August 20. Fitzwater, who received an honorary doctorate from Kansas State University in 2015, recently donated his personal papers to the Richard L. D. and Marjorie J. Morse Department of Special Collections at K-State Libraries. The items in the exhibit represent a small sample of the donation.

Fitzwater grew up in Abilene and graduated from K-State in 1965. He rose through the ranks of civil service in Washington, D.C., serving as spokesperson and speechwriter for several agencies including the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Transportation and Department of Treasury.

In 1983, Fitzwater joined the White House staff, where he remained for 10 years, including six years as press secretary. He is the only press secretary in history to be appointed by two presidents. He is a best-selling author and consulted for the award-winning television show "The West Wing."

## Research center helps consumers 'fight bac' through national poultry food safety campaign

Kansas State University research is reaching kitchens and grocery stores across the country, thanks to a national campaign that promotes food safety and safe poultry handling.

The Partnership for Food Safety Education is using research from Kansas State University's Center for Sensory Analysis and Consumer Behavior for its nationwide campaign, Don't Wing It: Practice Safe Poultry Handling. The campaign is being featured by Wal-Mart, Publix and other supermarkets across the country.

University researchers conducted years of food safety studies and developed safety tips that are the basis of the campaign. These food safety tips and information will appear in grocery store signs, circular ads, poultry bags, cooler shelf tags, propane tanks and other locations throughout stores.

"Research on food safety conducted in the Center for Sensory Analysis and Consumer Behavior is key to our overall goal of ensuring that consumers get the best products and information to help them live healthy, happy, productive lives," said Edgar Chambers IV, co-director of the center and university distinguished professor of food, nutrition, dietetics and health. "The fact that a national group like the Partnership for Food Safety Education chose to use the research that we conducted as the basis of their new national campaign shows the importance of what we do."

The university team will continue adding important research to the campaign in the next year, Chambers

## Kansas Insurance Commissioner inducted into K-State Accounting Hall of Fame

Kansas Insurance Commissioner Ken Selzer was recently inducted into the Kansas State University Department of Accounting Hall of Fame. The honor annually recognizes an outstanding accounting alumni who is making an impact in business, government or academia.

Selzer earned his accounting degree from K-State in 1975. He currently serves on the Advisory Council of the K-State College of Business Administration and is a member of the KSU Foundation board of trustees.

## Chemistry researcher receives NIH grant to continue developing possible Alzheimer's drug

The statistics are sobering: Alzheimer's disease is the sixth leading cause of death in the U.S. More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease; by 2050, this number could reach 16 million, according to the Alzheimer's Association.

Duy Hua, K-State distinguished professor of chemistry, and industry partner AfaSci have received a Phase II Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant from the National Institutes of Health to continue investigating two leading molecules that show promise as a new weapon against Alzheimer's.

Hua said the molecules, which he initially discovered while looking for drugs to remove the plaque that causes heart disease, performed well in initial in vivo studies. More studies are being performed to advance

said. The center has a second location at the university's Olathe campus, where researchers are conducting studies on grilling and food safety.

## DID YOU KNOW?

K-State's Soil Judging Team won second place in the Overall Team and second place in the Group Judging categories at the 2017 National Collegiate Soils Contest.

the drug.

"We were very happy with the results of this novel class of compounds in Phase I, and now we hope to get toxicity data and submit an Investigational New Drug application," Hua said. "If that is approved by the FDA, the drug can move along for the clinical trial."

The new drug has demonstrated positive effects in mild cognitive impairment, which is a symptom of early stage Alzheimer's disease. Hua hopes the drug also can be used to treat later stages of the disease.

Facebook Twitter Website

**K-State Governmental Relations Staff**
*Sue Peterson, Director of Governmental Relations*
*Kristin Holt, Assistant to the Director*
*Asher Gilliland, Legislative Assistant*
*Caleb Hurst, Legislative Assistant*
*Lacy Pitts, Legislative Assistant*

**Contact Information**
*Office of Governmental Relations*
*110 Anderson Hall*
*Manhattan, KS 66506*
*785-532-6227*
*www.ksu.edu/govrelations*