



## Points of Interest

November 5, 2009

Tony Grindberg, Executive Director of the NDSU Research & Technology Park in Fargo, North Dakota has been elected to a prestigious position on the Board of Directors of the Association of University Research Parks (AURP).



Grindberg has been the Executive Director of the NDSU Research & Technology Park (RTP) since 2002. During his tenure, the park has grown to include seven buildings in the park. The park is home to its cornerstone tenant, Phoenix International, a John Deere Company, along with Candlewood Suites, Batcheller Technology Center, NDSU's Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering, Department of Coatings and Polymeric Materials and the Office of Research, Creative Activities, and Technology Transfer along with the Technology Incubator.

The Association of University Research Parks (AURP) is a professional association of university related research and science parks. The mission of AURP is to promote the development and operations of research parks that foster innovation, commercialization and economic competitiveness in a global economy through collaboration among universities, industries and government.

In 2007, the Technology Incubator opened to provide value-added services to start-up companies that hold the promise of impacting private sector business today and in the future. Bobcat is the anchor tenant in the facility and seven other companies in various stages of development reside in the incubator. In October, two companies, Appareo Systems and Pedigree Technologies exited the incubator to move into a new multi-tenant facility located southeast of the Technology Incubator.

The sixteen member board includes research park directors from national leading universities such as: University of Wisconsin, University of Maryland, Ohio State University, Purdue, Virginia Tech, and South Dakota State University.

The Research Park is celebrating ten years of partnership, innovation and growth that is a shining star for the community, region and state. For additional information on the park, please visit [www.ndsuresearchpark.com](http://www.ndsuresearchpark.com).

## The Plus Experience

To maintain a competitive edge in today's market, businesses need employees who possess more than just technical skills. They need employees who have the business skills that allow them to adapt to industries' changing needs.



The Plus Experience, a North Dakota Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) program, is a business and technology course that helps create these employees. It enriches the life and career success of students and graduates, and it provides businesses with team members who can produce industry-specific results quickly.

The Plus Experience is a two credit course offered through NDSU DCE (Distance and Continuing Education) and executed here at the Technology Incubator. The class is primarily targeted to students in the preferred disciplines of software development, engineering and biotechnology. It delivers "real world" business skills in the areas of product life cycle management, communication, critical thinking, and customer service to name a few. It provides a jumpstart to students as they transition from the academic environment to the dynamic world of private sector business (Pictured left to right in the photo: Urvashi Gupta, Alayna Goodin, Marie Hagemeister, Sushanshi Gupta, Veenu Agarwal, and Abhishek Agarwal).

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## Incubator Tenants

- Avenue Right
- Bobcat Company
- Genosys
- Feed Management Systems
- FormulaNow
- Larada Sciences
- NDSU RFID Wireless and Sensor Lab
- NDSU Research & Technology Park

## Economic Impact

Since opening in March 2007, the Technology Incubator has accepted 11 companies into its program and celebrated 3 graduations. The economic impact to the community is listed below.

|                         | As of June 30, 2008 | As of June 30, 2009 |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Tenants:                | 8                   | 7                   |
| Employees:              | 96                  | 121                 |
| Student Employees:      | 14                  | 12                  |
| NDSU Graduates:         | 32                  | 48                  |
| Total Monthly Salaries: | \$489,233           | \$732,080           |
| Annualized Salaries:    | \$5,870,802         | \$8,784,960         |
| Graduates:              | -                   | 3                   |



## Staff

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