

100 University Ideas for Enhancing Business-University Collaboration in Florida

Report No. 2018-02

Serving as the basis for our issue understanding and recommendations in **Best Practices in Business-Academic R&D Collaboration**, the following university R&D best practices represent the recommendations suggested by the twelve state universities and the University of Miami. Each university spent considerable time completing a detailed survey regarding its R&D activities, with the largest institutions supplementing this work by granting the Florida Council of 100 extensive site visits.

The best practices reflected here are a collection of what these institutions felt would truly move the system forward to be the top R&D-producing university system in the nation. While the Florida Council of 100 supports many of these practices, we recommend that the State University System use this list to review where current R&D funding, policy, and governance structure should be amended to continue to propel the state's R&D efforts. That said, proposed practices must be balanced against results and fiscal constraints.

Best Practices (see report for details):

- Recruit more high-powered researchers
- Increase faculty engaged in research activities with commercial potential
- Provide capital for development / commercialization activities
- Promote basic research at universities
- Establish / enhance physical infrastructure
- Improve communication between business and academia
- Provide experts and staff to guide universities through development / commercialization activities
- Create incubators and accelerators
- Recruit more high-powered students
- Provide matching funds to attract new “super” programs
- Optimize state R&D funding
- Increase entrepreneurship
- Construct / enhance industry-focused research parks and innovation districts
- Develop policies, procedures, and tools to help researchers from different entities collaborate
- Target industry-academic interactions based on industry need
- Increase the number and scope of partnerships
- Hedge against risk
- Broaden marketing initiatives
- Invest in Florida's innovation ecosystem