Scope of Knowledge Transfer at HKUST – Coupling Innovation & Entrepreneurship to Society’s Needs in Multi-dimension
University Industry Research Collaborations

- Industrial partners can gain access to HKUST’s R&D strength in addressing their challenges and maintaining their competitive edges.
- Industry may leverage government’s financial support in collaboration with HKUST.
- By collaborating with industry, HKUST researchers can work with domain experts in developing applied solutions to industry challenges.
- Researchers gain valuable experience in applied research and may become employees to collaborating companies.
Industrial Collaborations at HKUST

- HKUST considers industrial collaborations to address society’s challenges a key Knowledge Transfer mission
- Industry may collaborate with HKUST on project base or develop a long term collaboration model
- Collaboration Modes
  - Collaborative Research
  - Sponsored Research
  - Partnership and/or Joint Laboratory or Research Center
Government Support for University Industry Research Collaborations from the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC)
Selected Funding Support from Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC)

Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) from Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC)
(http://www.itf.gov.hk)

- Innovation and Technology Fund
  - Innovation and Technology Support Program (ITSP)
    - Guangdong – Hong Kong Technology Cooperation Funding Scheme (TCFS)
    - Public Sector Trial Scheme
  - University-Industry Collaboration Program (UICP)
  - General Support Program (GSP)
    - GSP – Internship Program
    - GSP – Patent Application Grant
  - Enterprise Support Scheme (ESS)
Innovation and Technology Support Program (ITSP)

- Call for proposal 2 times per year
- Platform project ( Tier 2 ) ( “10:90 program” )
  - Industry sponsorship support from at least 1 private company with total contribution ≥10% of the total project cost
  - IP Ownership: Lead applicant ( typically university )
  - Lead applicant may grant non-exclusive licenses to companies

http://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/ITSP.asp
Innovation and Technology Support Program (ITSP)

- **Collaborative project (Tier 2) (“50:50 program”)**
  - Application has to be submitted with a private HK registered company as the applicant and a local university as the partner
  - IP ownership: IP may be owned by Participating company
  - Support is given as a grant, subject to cash and/or contribution by the company amounting to ≥ 50% of the project cost

- **Exploratory project (Tier 3)**
  - IP Ownership: Lead applicant (typically university)
  - Industrial contribution is not mandatory
University-Industry Collaboration Program (UICP) – Matching Grant for Joint Research

- Accepts proposal all year round
- Application has to be submitted with a private HK registered company as the applicant and a local university as the partner
- IP ownership: IP may be owned by Participating company
- Support is given as a grant, subject to cash contribution by the company amounting to $50\%$ of the project cost

http://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/UICP.asp
ITF – Nurturing Technology Talent

• Internship Programme
  • Supports the recruitment of up to two local graduate interns for 24 months to undertake ITF projects
  • Provides monthly allowance of $16,000 (Bachelor’s degree) or $19,000 (Master’s degree or above)
  

• Postdoctoral Hub Programme
  • Supports the recruitment of up to two postdoctoral talent for 24 months to undertake ITF projects
  • Provides monthly allowance of $32,000
  • The postdoctoral talent must possess a doctoral degree in “STEM”-related discipline from either a local university or a well-recognized non-local institution
  
Public Sector Trial Scheme

- Facilitate the development of new products not already available in the market currently, and employing the R&D results/deliverables of the completed ITF projects

- Provides funding support for production of prototypes/samples & conducting of trial schemes in the public sector

https://www.itf.gov.hk/l-eng/PSTS.asp
Research and Development
Cash Rebate Scheme

• 40% cash rebate of a company’s expenditure in 2 types of applied R&D projects; company can be overseas or HK registered

• Innovation and Technology Fund (ITF) projects
  – Platform project
  – Collaborative project
  – Both ISTP and UICP programs are eligible