Creating jobs and prosperity
How KU benefits the Kansas economy

University of Kansas researchers don’t just make discoveries that change the world. They make discoveries that create jobs for Kansans and prosperity for our state.

Turning discoveries into companies
To date, 24 active startup companies have been created from KU research, 22 of which are based in Kansas. These companies range from Innara Health, which develops neonatal care technologies, to eLearning Creations, which provides online courses for special education teachers.

Spurring faculty and student entrepreneurship is part of KU’s Bold Aspirations strategic plan, which for the first time includes measures such as patents and license agreements in the university’s overall goals.

KU now conducts entrepreneurship training for researchers and offers a range of incentives to spur the success of startup companies.

Attracting businesses to Kansas
KU’s strengths in drug discovery, biorefining and engineering continue to draw companies to Kansas.

ADM has a presence in Lawrence to work with KU on chemical biorefining, while several pharmaceutical companies have located in the Bioscience and Technology Business Center (BTBC) network to partner with researchers in the School of Pharmacy. The school is ranked No. 2 nationally for National Institutes of Health research funding.

Building partnerships
KU collaborated with area economic development organizations to create the BTBC network, with locations in Lawrence and at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City, Kan.

KU has also created the Strategic Partners Program to provide a one-stop shop for businesses to partner with KU on research, technology transfer and internships.

Additionally, KU’s Center for Design Research is working with Ford and Bayer, while the School of Engineering has partnered with Garmin, which has opened an office in Lawrence to work more closely with KU.

More information: Joe Monaco, Office of Public Affairs (785) 864-7100, jmonaco@ku.edu