

The Center for Innovative Technology (CIT) will lead the development of the Commonwealth Research and Technology (R&T) Strategic Roadmap required for awarding the \$6 million in funding for the Commonwealth Research Commercialization Fund (CRCF) in Fiscal Year 2012. The reforms and funding were part of Governor Bob McDonnell's "Opportunity at Work" initiative to bolster innovation in emerging technologies in the Commonwealth.

### **Commonwealth Research and Technology (R&T) Strategic Roadmap (the Roadmap)**

The Roadmap – a framework for the Commonwealth to focus on the complete life cycle of research, development, and commercialization – will assist in establishing priorities for the Commonwealth's research and economic development investments. The Roadmap will include identification of key industry sectors where investments and in which investments in research and technology are recommended and where a return on research investment is most probable.

While CIT is facilitating the development of the Roadmap, the data will come directly from Virginia's technology community, including the Commonwealth's ten regional technology councils, private and public colleges and universities, federal labs and other research organizations, and economic development professionals. Legislation calls for the Roadmap to be submitted to the General Assembly on or by November 1, 2011. CIT's 2011 submission will be the first of a multi-phase project, including updates at least every three years.

Subsequent phases will include maintaining an online inventory of the Commonwealth's current R&D endeavors in both the public and private sectors. This inventory will be used to establish research and commercialization excellence in the Commonwealth, and for making recommendations to the Six-Year Capital Outlay Plan Advisory Committee.

### **Commonwealth Research Commercialization Fund (CRCF, the Fund)**

The CRCF, previously known as the Commonwealth Technology Research Fund (CTRF), was revised and renamed during the 2009 session of the General Assembly to reflect a strong focus on commercialization. In April 2011, with the passage of HB2324 (Delegates Scott Lingamfelter and Joe May) and SB1485 (Senators Mark Herring and Steve Newman), the CRCF was further enhanced and Governor McDonnell secured \$6 million to the Fund for the purpose of funding targeted areas of research with commercialization promise; \$2 million of the award is designated specifically for a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) matching program for National Institutes of Health (NIH) Phase I award winners. The [CIT GAP Funds](#) received \$4 million in additional funding.

Programs eligible to receive CRCF funding, in addition to SBIR include:

- A matching fund program to leverage federal and private funds for research commercialization;
- A facilities enhancement loan program to assist with capital needs for facilities with commercialization activities of qualified research or technologies;
- A commercialization program to incentivize Virginia-based organizations commercializing products or services with qualifying technology; and
- An eminent research recruitment program to enhance research capabilities at state universities and colleges.

Research and technology areas eligible to receive funding from the CRCF will be identified in the R&T Roadmap, and future awards from the Fund may only be made to applications that further the goals set forth in the Roadmap. The Roadmap also will include a policy regarding the ownership and licensing of intellectual property developed through the use of awards from the CRCF.

### **Additional Information**

CIT will be developing guidelines and establishing the Research and Technology Investment Advisory Committee, as laid out in legislation. CIT will provide updates on the Roadmap and CRCF – including Fund solicitations, guidelines, and awards – on the CIT website: [www.cit.org](http://www.cit.org), or at <http://www.cit.org/programs/cit-rd/crcf>. Other avenues for CRCF updates include webinars, newsletters, press releases, and Federal Funding Assistance Program (FFAP) events.

HB2324 addresses the Roadmap and CRCF and can be accessed at <http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?111+ful+CHAP0816>.