

OCTOBER 20-21, 2022 / SALT LAKE CITY, UT

**CONVERGENCE**



Hosting an annual summit for those interested in developing or collaborating with university tech and startup gap fund and accelerator programs

CORPORATE/INVESTOR EVENT OVERVIEW

**CONVERGENCE**

THE RESEARCH INSTITUTION TECH & STARTUP  
GAP FUND/ACCELERATOR SUMMIT

Presented by  
**innovosource**

Hosted by  
  
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH  
**PIVOT Center**





## WHAT IS COVERAGE?

A dedicated gathering for research institutions, industry, and investors that are interested in developing or collaborating with technology and startup gap fund and accelerator programs.

The lack of true early-stage capital and innovation developmental support is a major challenge in advancing promising research institution technology from the lab to commercial and investment partners.

**Universities and hospitals** are leading through the implementation of university gap funding (proof of concept, startup, venture) and accelerator programs to bridge this "valley of death". Over the past 15 years, these programs have evolved into sophisticated investment, evaluation, development, and commercialization support mechanisms to nurture the most promising opportunities in emerging, high-growth technology areas.

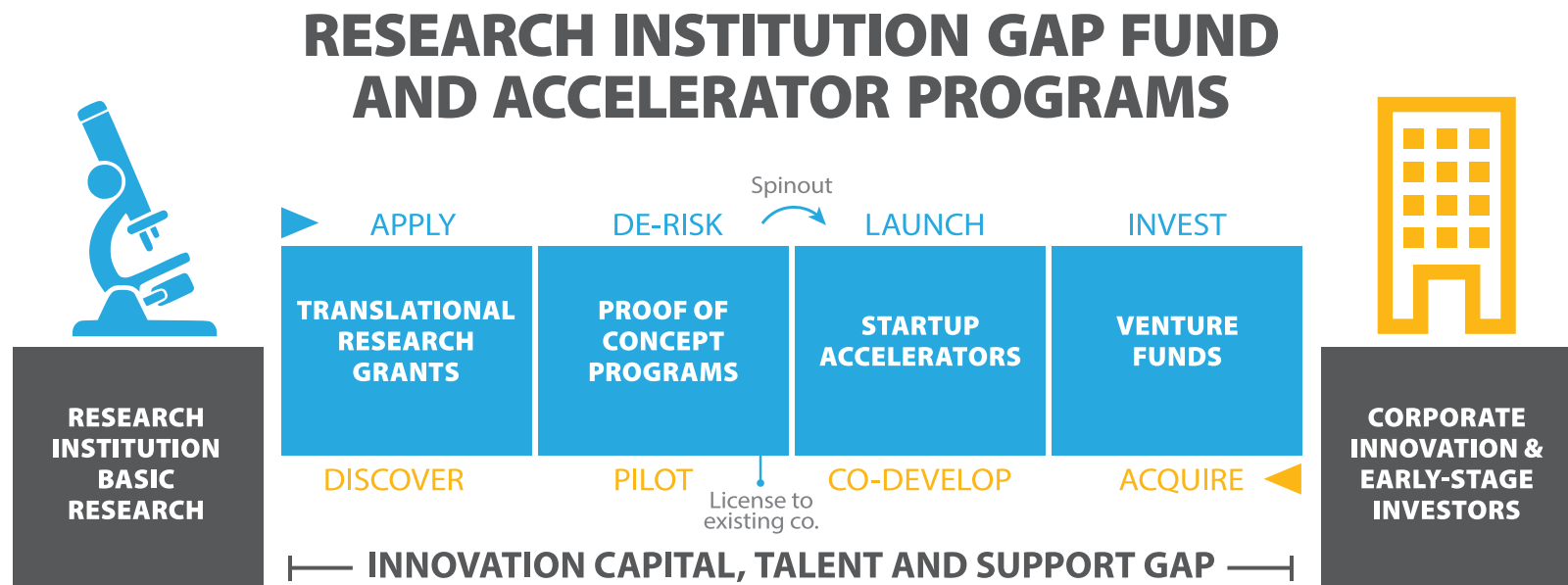
**Smart companies and investors** are taking notice and making it a strategic, external innovation priority to partner with these gap fund and accelerator programs through applied research, proof of concept projects, seed and venture investments, and advisory/mentorship in return for insights, competitive positioning, and access to future technology and startups.

**COVERAGE** is where we meet, learn, and talk about what we can do together to catalyze innovation through these research institution gap fund and accelerator programs.



## WHERE DOES COVERAGE FOCUS?

**COVERAGE** focuses on a unique opportunity space in the early stage technology/startup development and investment pathway. Cost requirements are relatively low, opportunity for commercialization, investment, and partnership potential is high.







## WHAT TO EXPECT AT CONVERGENCE?

### RIGHT PEOPLE.

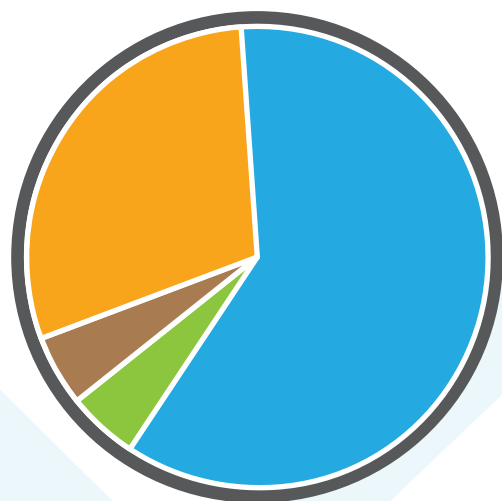
University POC/startup/venture, industry, and investor leadership converge to connect those interested in developing and accessing emerging IP, proof of concept projects, and startups through gap funds/accelerator programs; share and learn about early stage innovation trends and collaboration practices.

### RIGHT SIZE.

150 people or less. We all know that large events lead to many hit-miss, high-level exchanges. Our strategy is to go small to allow everyone to meet and forge foundational relationships. We do this by setting a limit and making sure that we are inviting the right people to fill those seats.

### RIGHT CONTENT.

Connect. Learn. Share common interests. Creative venues, hosted at leading research institutions, with a balance of content and relationship-building. Increase random interactions and knowledge exchange.



- |                            |                                |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| FUND/ACCELERATOR SHOWCASES | HAPPIEST OF HOURS MIXER        |
| FOCUS GROUPS               | CORPORATE INNOVATION AND       |
| PARTNER PANELS             | INVESTOR PANELS                |
| IN-EVENT NETWORKING        | POST EVENT WEB RESOURCE ACCESS |

**60% RESEARCH INSTITUTION PROGRAM LEADERSHIP**

**30% CORPORATE INNOVATION/VC & PRIVATE VC/INVESTORS**

**5% GOVERNMENT/ED AGENCIES**

**5% SERVICE PROVIDERS**





## WHAT LAST PARTICIPANTS SAID

"**COVERGENCE** was a great conference to learn more about the complexities of gap funding at Universities, from grants to venture. Great topics, networking, and even a little bit of fun thrown in."

"**COVERGENCE** offers insight into a niche industry that the corporate and investment worlds are neglecting. There is a huge opportunity for collaboration and partnership to help university-founded startups scale their businesses."

"**COVERGENCE** was a fantastic opportunity to engage with others involved in startup formation and success! Great opportunity and format to go deep on topics and best practices of interest and importance to universities supporting startups!"

"**COVERGENCE** was worth the intercontinental travel. With a high concentration of experts, entrepreneurs and investors, it really was an eye-opening experience."

"**COVERGENCE** was a great opportunity for a small program like ours to compare notes with more established, larger programs to compare best practices."

"Thanks for having us! We are definitely coming again next year."



**100%**

Rated event at highly/extremely valuable



**88%**

Are highly/extremely likely to attend this year's event



**73%**

Will actively promote this year's event



## THE BENEFITS TO YOU



### CONNECT INNOVATION PARTNERS AND INVESTMENTS.

90% of participants represent research institution commercialization, startup, and intellectual property units, corporate innovation/startup investment, and venture firms. You'll have unparalleled access to executive leadership directly responsible for managing innovation and investment. This interaction will be enabled through both in-event networking and pre-event online collaboration.

### DEMONSTRATE YOUR SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE SPACE

The fact that you recognize and support COVERGENCE demonstrates to participants that you understand the space and are seeking innovative ways to partner. That goes a long way and positions you ahead of your competitors.



### GIFT YOURSELF SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT.

Focused reviews of tech/startup gap funds and accelerator programs and specific avenues on how to engage research institutions through these programs will provide strategic insights on your potential next moves.

### SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY.

Plenty of opportunities to showcase your operation and innovation or investment interests or need. Participating institutions will also provide overviews of active technologies/startups for your review and potential action.





## INNOVOSOURCE | CONVERGENCE ORGANIZER



### Jacob Johnson, Founder

For the past 15 years, Jacob has focused on his passion to bring together people and processes that encourage the transition of technologies and startups from the lab to the marketplace. Building community and resources around best practice approaches, like gap fund/accelerators programs, has been the priority. To-date, **Innovosource** has assisted the development of gap fund/accelerator programs at over 350 research institutions, companies, and investment firms.

## innovosource

**Innovosource** encourages innovation and commercialization programs through knowledge exchange and relationship building between research institutions, industry, and investors.

**REGISTER TODAY!**

[COVERGENCE EVENT SITE | REGISTER HERE](#)

View full event overview, agenda, and location details

Please contact us for any COVERGENCE related questions at [connect@innovosource.com](mailto:connect@innovosource.com)