



The U of A is aiming to raise over \$10 million in support of the U of A Innovation Fund and launched at \$5M  
The Fund offers education, mentoring, funding, and global scale through access to strategic networks  
Pay it forward: Gains are reinvested to sustain and grow innovation and entrepreneurship at the U of A

## VENTURE PHILANTHROPY

Donors to the Fund include alumni, philanthropists, corporations and foundations.

Donations raised will be held by the University of Alberta and invested in companies within the Fund.

The Fund invests pre-seed to seed, between \$100,000 - \$300,000 upwards alongside matching industry sector partner dollars with the potential for follow-on funding.

Equity investments will be generally made in the form of a Simple Agreement for Future Equity (SAFE) or equivalent instruments.

As a wholly-owned for-profit subsidiary of the U of A, an independent board oversees the strategy of the management team.

The Fund is supported by sector advisors, ambassadors, student involvement and alumni from around the world.

## AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

One of Canada's top five research-intensive universities, the U of A has over \$600 million in research annually and more than 60,000 students, faculty and staff.

Leveraging the collaborative benefits of three colleges - health sciences; natural and applied sciences; and social sciences and humanities - the U of A has developed successful spin-outs and new ventures.

The Fund collaborates closely with Research and Innovation to ensure we capitalize on new innovations early on; and the Alberta School of Business ranks that first in Canada and provides entrepreneurship training and numerous student entrepreneurship and incubator hubs.

Ranking third in the world for artificial intelligence and partnering with the Alberta Machine Learning Institute (AMII), the University is set to innovate across multiple verticals.

## Investments To Date:

### RL Core Technologies

- AI company focusing on optimizing water treatment and management; Industrial automation for AI increasing efficiency
- Supported by UA Fund with follow on funding, customers in utility space and opportunities to work with Indigenous Communities
- Notable investors include Flying Fish

### Nanostics

- A precision health and bio-technology company working to provide a diagnostic test for prostate cancer that is non-invasive and provides early detection
- UA Fund is supporting in discussions with investors around North America and introductions to healthcare providers
- Notable investors include Alberta Innovates, Startup TNT and Bird Dog Angel Group.

### PulseMedica

- A biotechnology company building revolutionary technology to image and treat vitreoretinal disease safely and effectively
- Additional support from the UA Fund includes introductions to customers and other investors
- Notable investors include UCeed, Startup TNT, Yaletown Partners, Accelerate Fund and Scale Good Fund.

### Areto Labs

- An AI company providing AI-powered tools to large scale organizations for moderating harmful content on different platforms.
- Fund Support includes access to deal making and conversations with potential customers
- Notable investors include Yaletown Partners, Accelerate Fund, Scale Good Fund, and UCeed.

### Wyvern

- A hyperspectral imaging focused satellite company that allows customers to measure chemical processes and identify materials to a resolution not met by traditional imaging technologies
- UA Fund Support through additional investors and our rich network of AI Advisors
- Notable investors include Y-Combinator and Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC).



### Community Building Innovation Portal

One-stop shop for all things innovation at the University of Alberta and the Province, where all stakeholders can access networks, events, resources, tools, funding, and service provider support.

#### Criteria for Funding

- Open to students, faculty, staff, alumni and diverse teams (connection to U of A preferred)
- Addresses a challenge that will result in positive social impact while leveraging our sector-focus areas of excellence
- Unconstrained growth potential in a large market

#### Smart Money and Scale-Up

- Access to follow-on funding and global networks for dealmaking and go-to-market opportunities
- Founder friendly and team-building through cohorts
- Office hours across campus and Alberta
- Community-building online and in person
- education will be provided, including topics such as entrepreneurship, "Perfect your Pitch," and financial literacy, delivered through boot camps, masterclasses and networking.
- Advisors and sector specialists to champion founders

#### Social Innovation

- Focuses on innovation that brings positive impact to Alberta and fulfills the philanthropic goals of the University
- Provides access and reaches various diverse communities

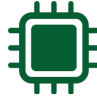
#### Access to Deal Flow

- Active outreach programs across faculty and students from the Research and Innovation Office and Technology Transfer Services
- Alberta ecosystem partnerships, including accelerators, investors and advisors, word of mouth

#### Outcomes

- Unlock the potential of new ventures from concept to reality, Lab2Market
- High-value job creation to build Alberta's economy
- Strengthen the university's position as a global leader in entrepreneurship
- Directly benefit provincial economic priorities, including the Alberta Recovery Plan and economic diversification
- All gains are reinvested to sustain and grow innovation and entrepreneurship at the U of A

### FOCUS AREAS FOR INVESTMENT



AI

- Health
- Energy
- Agriculture
- Education technology
- Financial services technology
- Cybersecurity
- Blockchain
- Digitization
- Infrastructure
- Marketplaces
- Enterprise
- Mechatronics/robotics



HEALTH

- Biotechnology
- Pharmacy
- Natural health products
- Virology
- Vaccines and therapeutics
- Digital health
- Disease prevention
- Mental health



ENERGY

- Hydrogen
- Carbon capture
- Utilization/storage
- Greenhouse gas-abated fossil fuels
- Renewable minerals and metals
- Solar manufacturing
- Biomass
- Waste and nuclear
- Electric vehicles



AGRICULTURE

- Genomics
- Carbon sequestration and measurement carbon in soils
- Collision pieces including drones
- Environmentally contained agriculture
- Agriculture data analysis
- Logistics
- Agri-food diversification
- Forestry
- Land/water/energy efficiency

#### Student Involvement

- The fund has hired 35+ interdisciplinary students to conduct due diligence lite, as well as assist with marketing and digital support.
- Together the team has conducted due diligence on over 200 companies across the Province in preparation for the Investment Committee to review.
- Students are upskilled and encouraged to adopt and implement entrepreneurial thinking to real world applications.

For more information about the team and how to engage with the Innovation Fund please visit our [website](#).



## Board



Darin Rayburn



Bill Flanagan



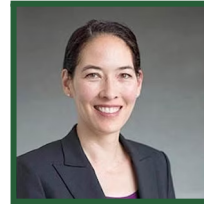
Paul Verhesen



Douglas Goss



Arden Tse



Angela Fong

## Fund Management



Sheetal Mehta Walsh  
CEO/IC



Neeraj Gupta  
IC



Patrick Pilarski  
AI Specialist/IC



Michael Bowling  
AI Specialist/IC



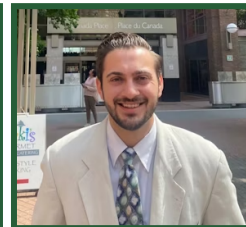
Tarek Ahmed  
CFO/COO



Sara Moore  
UA and AB Ecosystem  
Liaison

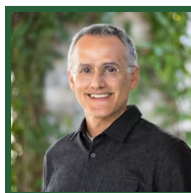


Alexandra Wilson  
Venture Associate



Jude Barros  
Venture Associate

## Advisors



Rohit Sharma



James Freeman



Jared Smith



Terry Freeman



Mike Saliken

For information regarding student involvement please see our [website](#).