

STRENGTHEN & MODERNIZE U-I Partnerships

A Global Imperative

UIDP, a global association of leading companies and universities, is launching a year-long effort to directly address the need to strengthen and modernize university-industry partnerships through bold approaches that dramatically increase impact from collaborative innovation.

In separate, recent addresses, both [Marcia McNutt](#), president of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, and [Dario Gil](#), senior vice president and director of IBM Research and current chair of the National Science Board, called for stakeholders across the research enterprise to take assertive and creative action to recoup U.S. leadership in science and technology to ensure a robust pipeline of future innovations that benefit society. McNutt specifically articulated the need to strengthen and modernize university-industry (U-I) partnerships as a critical step. Across the globe, governments and funders in the nonprofit and private sectors are experimenting with new approaches to optimize research partnerships.

We stand at an inflection point. UIDP sees this as an opportunity to galvanize a critical mass of stakeholders across the sectors who can lend their expertise and answer this call to action.

UIDP's year-long effort will produce strategic recommendations—both pragmatic and aspirational—to guide the research and innovation community in its efforts to act on the call sounded by McNutt and Gil. The developed resources from this effort will be:

- **Market-sourced.** Engage leading practitioners to learn about successful contemporary approaches and identify new strategies and tactics with potential for profound impact.
- **Comprehensive.** Address the full scope of U-I collaborations, including partnerships with government, nonprofit, and private sector funders.
- **Tactical.** Be forward-looking, with bold, actionable steps to advance the state of U-I partnerships.
- **Benchmarking.** Incorporate global perspectives on this truly international issue.

The resulting body of knowledge will include actionable and diverse recommendations that organizations can consider for adoption. The content will align with these key focus areas:

- **Compliance and contracts.** Enhancing public trust in science by reducing conflicts of interest and enhancing transparency.
- **Infrastructure.** Strengthening innovation ecosystems, expanding research capacity, and design and use of shared research space.
- **Joint investments and engagement.** Coordinating R&D resources for impact across university, industry, government, and nonprofit sectors.
- **Talent.** Building a future-focused talent pipeline through innovative approaches in preparation and recruitment.



Strengthening
University-Industry
Partnerships

info@uidp.net | uidp.org

Get Involved

This initiative requires effort, insights, and support from companies, universities, nonprofits, and governments (both at the national and regional levels) to inform action steps at every point. The process will be continuously informed by the voices of engaged stakeholders through facilitated, in-person sessions at strategic locations around the world, augmented by online events. This effort will conclude at [UIDP Europe 2025](#), where we will convene key leaders from across the research and innovation enterprise in Basel, Switzerland.

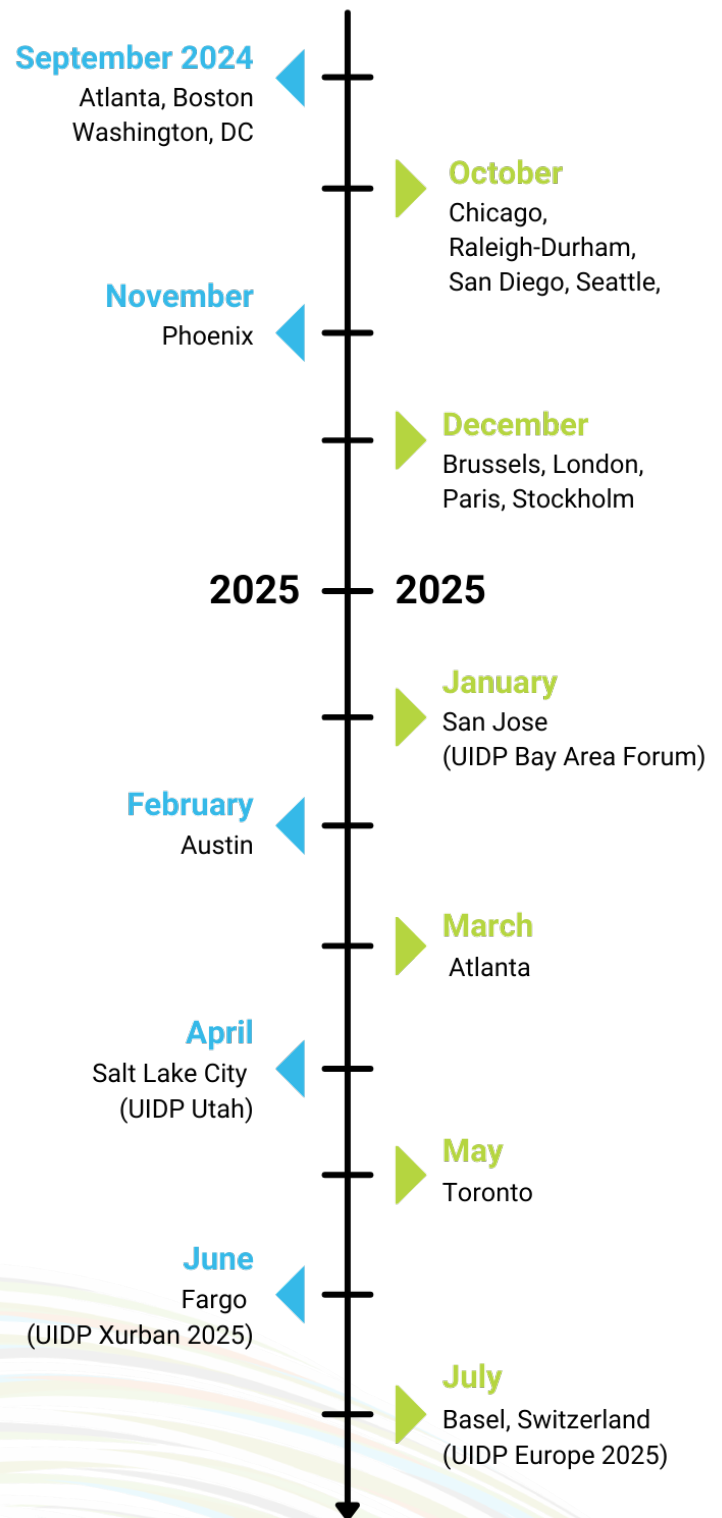
There are myriad ways to support this effort – propose or participate in listening sessions, provide case studies from today’s most innovative partnerships, or invest in these activities.

Why UIDP?

Based on its nearly 20 years in the U-I collaboration space and building upon a repository of successful approaches to increase the impact of these partnerships, [UIDP](#) is the logical leader, convener, and partner for this bold, pragmatic initiative. From metrics for evaluating U-I partnership value, to foundational work on contracting for sponsored research agreements, to innovative approaches for joint employment, co-location, and strengthening innovation ecosystems, UIDP has identified and developed a range of practical approaches to improving U-I engagements that have become canon for cross-sector collaborations.

UIDP also possesses an extensive history of convening thought leaders from diverse sectors to evaluate new approaches to academic-corporate-government-nonprofit partnering that have broken new ground. As a global [network of organizations](#) across the partnership enterprise that regularly teams with government and private sector funders in areas of mutual interest, UIDP can leverage its connections to ensure this effort is comprehensive, objective, and representative of the entire research community. By catalyzing the academic and corporate communities (in partnership with other interested parties) to respond to contemporary calls to action, UIDP will realize the vision to strengthen and modernize U-I partnerships and ultimately improve the state of science and engineering in the United States and beyond.

Listening Sessions



**STRENGTHEN
& MODERNIZE
U-I Partnerships**



Share your question, comment, or an approach to strengthen and modernize U-I partnerships [here](#) or email UIDP at info@uidp.net.

