



PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INNOVATION PARK’S ANNUAL TECHGRANT GOES VIRTUAL TO SUPPORT EARLY STAGE COMPANIES AND TO GIVE START-UPS A CHANCE AT WINNING \$25,000

Tallahassee, Florida – August 5, 2020 – Innovation Park of Tallahassee is pleased to announce the annual TechGrant Program, co-presented this year by Hancock Whitney Bank and Danfoss Turbocor, is going virtual! This prestigious competition awards two early stage companies in Leon County a total of \$25,000 to aid in the commercialization of their technology. Finalists were announced in April and include local businesses EduClear, MagShark, Moye Consultants, Nhu Energy, and WeatherTiger.

The event is on Wednesday, October 21st and will be hosted via Zoom and live streamed to the Innovation Park Facebook page. Each company will present its business commercialization plan and answer questions from a prominent panel of judges. The two teams that score the highest overall are awarded grants of up to \$15,000.

“While we won’t be able to host our in-person community event this year, the COVID-19 pandemic clearly illustrates why the ability to innovate is essential and we must press on. Programs like the TechGrant, support the creation and growth of companies in the region which could one day commercialize the next new vaccine, therapeutic, medical device, or other major discovery” said Ron Miller, Executive Director.

Launched in 2005, the TechGrant Program represents Innovation Park’s commitment to support the entrepreneurial ecosystem and the incredible technology being developed in the local community. Since its inception, the competition has awarded 27 companies a total of \$462,000 to help push them to the next stage in their development. Many of the previous winners have gone on to successfully commercialize their technologies.

“Winning the TechGrant competition or not, Innovation Park staff is here to assist entrepreneurs in their quest to get products and services into the marketplace.

Although we specialize in hard sciences and related technologies, we collaborate with partner organizations that collectively support many types of businesses, from oyster farming to electric power controls and more” said Michael Tentnowski, Director of Entrepreneurship.

Additional TechGrant sponsors include Lewis Longman & Walker, NAI Talcor, The Office of Economic Vitality, Thomas Howell Ferguson, and Nelson Mullins.

For more information about the TechGrant program, please visit our website <http://innovation-park.com/techgrant/>.

About Innovation Park of Tallahassee

Innovation Park of Tallahassee is a unique community collaboration of FSU, FAMU, TCC, County, City and private sector leaders charged with driving innovation based economic development to recruit, retain, and develop organizations which capitalize on the distinctive Innovation Park research assets focused on magnetics, aero-propulsion, materials, energy, health, and life sciences. The mission of Innovation Park is to work in affiliation with these partners to promote our region’s research and development assets, and to foster the attraction, startup and growth of private innovative companies that create high wage jobs in Leon County. Learn more at www.innovation-park.com.

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