

VIPC Awards Commonwealth Commercialization Fund Grant to George Mason University UTI Diagnostic Research

CCF grants support startups, critical early technology testing and market validation efforts

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, UNITED STATES, July 6, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation (VIPC) today announced that George Mason University (GMU) has been awarded a Commonwealth



Commercialization Fund (CCF) grant for \$75,000 in support of a commercialization project being conducted by Dr. Alessandra Luchini. VIPC's CCF programs have distributed more than \$49 million to Virginia-based startups, entrepreneurs and university-based inventors since 2012.



The global urinary tract infection diagnostic market is projected to grow exponentially by 2030 due to increasing disease burden and population aging. We are proud to contribute to the solution."

Dr. Lucchini, GMU Professor in the School of Systems

Biology

GMU is a public research university based in Fairfax, Va. Dr. Lucchini is Professor in the School of Systems Biology at GMU. This CCF grant will be used to further develop a collapsible urine collection cup that captures and preserves urinary tract infection pathogens for highly sensitive culture diagnostic testing.

"We are grateful to receive a CCF grant from VIPC," said Dr. Luchini. "The global urinary tract infection diagnostic market is projected to grow exponentially by 2030 due to increasing disease burden and population aging. We are proud to contribute to the solution, and we thank VIPC for bringing us one step closer to our goal."

"We are pleased to award a CCF grant to support Dr. Luchini's research at GMU," said Hina Mehta, VIPC's Director for University Programs. "VIPC's CCF higher education grant program plays an important role in getting funding to entrepreneurially-minded university researchers as they work to take innovations from lab to market. The research being done by Dr. Luchini and her

team has the potential to add great value to the growing urinary tract infection diagnostic market."

CCF accepts applications and awards funding on a rolling basis to Virginia's small businesses and university-based innovators. The CCF Higher education grant program seeks to fund high-potential Virginia-based academic



research teams that are developing technologies with strong commercial potential. The grants support early technology and market validation efforts such as customer discovery, market research, business model validation, development of prototypes or a minimum viable product (MVP), customer pilots, intellectual property protection, team development, and more. For more information on funding opportunities and eligibility requirements, or to apply visit: www.VirginialPC.org.

About the Commonwealth Commercialization Fund (CCF)

VIPC's Commonwealth Commercialization Fund (CCF) was launched on July 1, 2020 to foster innovative and collaborative efforts in Virginia. Combining two legacy state programs, the Commonwealth Research Commercialization Fund (CRCF) and the Virginia Research Innovation Fund (VRIF), CCF seeks technologies with a high potential for economic development and job creation and that position the Commonwealth as a national leader in science- and technology-based research, development, and commercialization.

About Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation (VIPC)

VIPC: Connecting innovators with opportunities. As the nonprofit operations arm of the Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority (VIPA), VIPC is the commercialization and seed stage economic development driver in the Commonwealth that leads funding, infrastructure, and policy initiatives to support Virginia's innovators, entrepreneurs, startups, and market development strategies. VIPC collaborates with local, regional, state, and federal partners to support the expansion and diversification of Virginia's economy.

Programs include: Virginia Venture Partners (VVP) | VVP Fund of Funds (SSBCI) | Virginia Founders Fund (VFF) | Commonwealth Commercialization Fund (CCF) | Petersburg Founders Fund (PFF) | Smart Communities | The Virginia Smart Community Testbed | The Virginia Unmanned Systems Center | Virginia Advanced Air Mobility Alliance (VAAMA) | The Public Safety Innovation Center | Entrepreneurial Ecosystems | Regional Innovation Fund (RIF) | Federal Funding Assistance Program (FFAP) for SBIR & STTR | University Partnerships | Startup Company Mentoring & Engagement. For more information, please visit www.virginialPC.org. Follow VIPC on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

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