

**SWOT ANALYSIS REGARDING PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA**  
**Results of Focus Group Session –APRIL 13, 2011**

---

***Attributes of The University of Montana helpful in “cultivating public/private partnerships”***

- Outstanding resources (in the form of personnel, physical assets) ideal for industry engagement
- Experience and ability to secure grant money
- New leadership with a vision for “people and programs” of world class caliber
- Highly competitive programs in terms of research dollars, i.e. pharmacy program rankings
- Scholarship mechanisms in place for private sector donations
- Mid size research institution – nimble and agile
- Reinvention and investment in MonTEC (incubator)

***Attributes of The University of Montana harmful in “cultivating public/private partnerships”***

- Structure and culture that does not applaud industry engagement (translational research)
- Funding limitations with regard to prototyping technologies of promise
- Limited critical mass in terms of technology transfer opportunity output
- University’s limited experience engaging with industry as it relates to research/technology transfer
- Limited coordination of private sector “engagement” activities at the local, regional and state level

***Attributes of Montana helpful in “cultivating public/private partnerships”***

- Strong regional presence of individuals with international industry connections
- Great government access, strong delegation
- State funds available for leveraging job growth and company recruitment, i.e. Big Sky Trust Fund
- A strong work ethic among Montanans, whom are very resourceful

***Attributes of Montana harmful in “cultivating public/private partnerships”***

- Limited industry presence in the state of MT, lack of a true technology cluster
- Tax structures
- Limited workforce (and training opportunities) when considering technology industry growth such as biotechnology, green energy...
- Lack of a comprehensive statewide strategy for engaging with the private sector in collaboration with higher education