

STRATEGIC THRUST IDEAS REGARDING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
Results of Focus Group Session – March 24, 2011

1. Hold monthly community/campus networking sessions devoted to entrepreneurship topics, including educational and experiential speakers
2. Develop a communications plan to be integrated into University publications that reach both internal and external stakeholders of the University
3. Establish training opportunities for faculty and graduate students to learn about launching new businesses, protecting intellectual property...
4. Build translational teams (“tiger teams”) charged with advancing early stage ideas through the proof-of-concept phase and into new businesses
5. Build an openly accessible database with information regarding opportunities for entrepreneurs to collaborate with the University. For example, faculty publications, strength areas of research...
6. Conduct an inventory of regional assets regarding retired executives, industry clusters... that could serve as a base for stimulating regional entrepreneurial activity
7. Establish community/University/state/alumni working groups around strength areas with a goal of generating new companies
8. Evaluate the feasibility of developing an entrepreneurial track for faculty interested in launching a new company
9. Initiate an annual celebration around entrepreneurship that engages all stakeholders – community, students, administration, faculty, staff...
10. Establish a program aimed at bridging the business school, law school, and research communities to stimulate new business concepts, with potential application into the annual business plan competition
11. Engage students and faculty in experiential opportunities with new start-up companies
12. Partner with the Best Place Project on its entrepreneurship based job goals
13. Consider *state-level* collaborative initiatives aimed at supporting entrepreneurship efforts linked to MT Universities