CUNY CAT Newsletter
Fall 2011
Sponsored Applied Research • Technology Translation • Entrepreneurship

*** NEW FLASH ***
The CUNY CAT has a new website!
Please click - http://www.cunycat.org
Businesses interested in learning more about how the CUNY CAT can promote their growth and reduce overhead costs should contact us.

CAT Entrepreneurial News
BARUCH COLLEGE - CAT Faculty Entrepreneurship Workshop Update.
Approximately 35 CUNY Faculty from all campuses participated in the Faculty Entrepreneurship Workshop co-Sponsored by the CAT and the Field Center for Entrepreneurship at Baruch College this past semester. The CAT previously organized a similar workshop in 2008 in partnership with the Industrial + Technology Assistance Corporation. This year’s curriculum focused on the following areas: (i) Launching a venture at CUNY; (ii) Starting your business; (iii) Marketing for success; (iv) Building your support team / Operational issues; (v) Funding your venture; and (vi) Business plan basics and developing your pitch. "Our goal this time was to be informative, practical, and action-oriented," said Myron Wecker, Ph.D., Deputy Director of the CAT, who coordinated the workshop with the Field Center. "For CUNY faculty who enrolled in and completed the Workshop, CAT and Field Center personnel are available to provide ongoing counseling and assistance in person, over the phone, or on-line," Wecker said.

SYRACUSE, NY - The SATOP Program ends. Effective December 30, 2011, the NASA Space Alliance Technology Outreach Program (SATOP) will cease to exist. It is a victim of being a NASA earmark. Through the CUNY CAT, the City University of New York served as an Alliance Partner of SATOP. SATOP Alliance Partners were companies, colleges, universities, and laboratories that have a connection with NASA and agreed to provide technical expertise in support of the SATOP program. This consortium of Alliance Partners was the driving force behind the success of SATOP. Essentially, we were the fuel that powered the program. More than 50 different aerospace companies, universities, and NASA centers have committed in excess of 30,000 hours to assisting small businesses via SATOP. The total value of this collective commitment exceeded more than $3,000,000. Serving as a SATOP Alliance Partner of SATOP, the CAT facilitated the completion of research and design tasks for numerous small NY State businesses over the years.

One project for the design of an aluminum window insulator performed by Ali Sadegh, Ph.D., Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Director of the Center for Advanced Engineering Design and Development at the Grove School of Engineering, won the 2007 SATOP Best Design Award from NASA. Discussions are currently underway between the CAT, the Industrial + Technology Assistance Corporation, and other NY State stakeholders to determine the feasibility of developing a replacement for this highly worthwhile program. Additional interested parties are encouraged to contact the CAT.

CAT Sponsored Research Success Story
CITY COLLEGE - Nasfine Photonics wins NSF SBIR Phase II grant after working with Grove School of Engineering CAT Faculty. Nicholas Madamopoulos, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering, has worked with Nasfine Photonics, Inc. through both Phase I and Phase II grant submissions to the NSF. Nasfine Photonics Inc. is an S-Corporation that was founded in 2003 by Dr. Benjamin Dingel as an Intellectual Property (IP)-based Generating Company with Patent Consulting Services located in Painted Post, New York. The well-known IP/Patent litigation company, Morrison & Forrester, LCC was one of the initial consulting clients of Dr. Dingel. In 2006, Nasfine shifted
focus and became a Photonics R&D, manufacturing firm that designs and manufactures proprietary ultra-high performance optical technology solutions such as new Super-Homodyne interferometer technology for nano/micro metrology and optical lithography applications, ultra-linearity optical modulator for highly demanding Radio-over-Fiber wireless access networks, ultra-dense CATV, telecommunications, and defense industries.

In collaboration with Prof. Madamopoulos, Nasfine was awarded a Phase I grant in 2010 and they were just awarded a Phase II grant in 2011. Both of these awards have led to CAT Sponsored Research Agreements. The CUNY CAT provided detailed letters of support for both of the NSF SBIR grant applications.

**Highlighting CAT Research Faculty**

CITY COLLEGE - *Distinguished Professor of Physics, Robert "Bob" Alfano, has been named the first SPIE Britton Chance Biomedical Awardee. SPIE is the International Society for Optics and Photonics. The Britton Chance Biomedical Optics Award will be presented annually in recognition of outstanding contributions to the field of biomedical optics through the development of innovative, high impact technologies. Britton Chance (1913 – 2010) was the Eldridge Reeves Johnson University Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry and Biophysics, as well as Professor Emeritus of Physical Chemistry and Radiological Physics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. The award particularly honors pioneering contributions to optical methods and devices that have significant promise to accelerate or have already facilitated new discoveries in biology or medicine. The award targets achievements that span disciplines and may include elements of basic research, technology development, and clinical translation. The SPIE Awards Committee recognized Prof. Alfano’s pioneering work in the biomedical optics field, in addition to his outstanding track record of achievements in the development of biomedical instruments, especially supercontinuum and broadband laser sources.*

Prof. Alfano has been a faculty member in the Department of Physics since 1972. Prior to joining City College, Dr. Alfano was a Research Physicist at GTE Research Laboratories. He received his Ph.D. in Physics from New York University and his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Physics from Fairleigh Dickinson University. He is a Fellow of American Physical Society, Optical Society of America, and IEEE. He is director of CCNY’s Institute of Ultrafast Spectroscopy and Lasers. The award will be presented during the BiOS Hot Topics Session at the SPIE Photonics West meeting in San Francisco, California in January 2012.

**CAT Calendar and Upcoming Events**

- CUNY CAT Scientist-Industry Meeting - Winter 2012
- CUNY CAT SBIR-STTR Incentive Program
  [http://www.cuny.edu/site/cat/programs/SBIRSTTRIncentiveProgram.html](http://www.cuny.edu/site/cat/programs/SBIRSTTRIncentiveProgram.html)

**Upcoming Grants and Contracts Deadlines**

Please contact the CAT if your company is interested in partnering with CUNY Research Faculty for the submission of SBIR/STTR grants and contracts.

**GRANTS**

- NIH - closes 7 Jan. 2012

**CONTRACTS**

- NOAA - closes 1 Feb. 2012

**About the CAT**

Who We Are - The CUNY CAT is a New York State-funded Center for Advanced Technology. Through the use of state matching funds and a special, reduced overhead rate, we offer the industrial community a powerful resource for applied research.

We can be reached at:

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