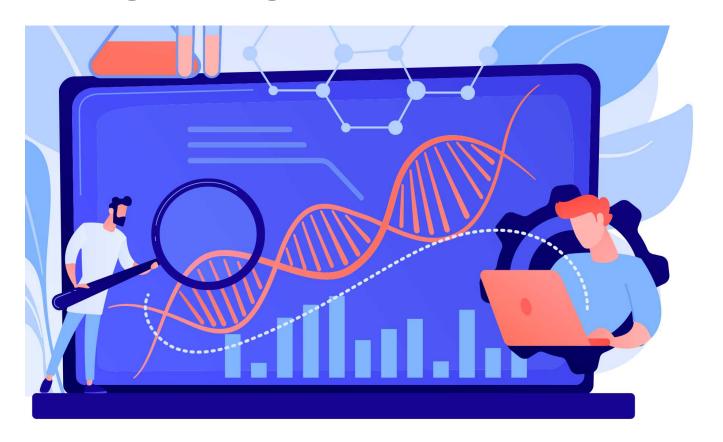
Tec and University of Illinois promote bioengineering research



The <u>Tec</u> School of Engineering and Sciences (EIC) and the <u>University of Illinois at Chicago</u> (<u>UIC</u>) will provide seed funding to 4 research projects for developing these initiatives, on which professors from both universities are collaborating.

The objective of this collaboration between the institutions is to **promote a globally connected community** supporting the efforts of **Tec** and **UIC** researchers, said **Juan José Cabrera Lazarini**, director of the **Tec-UIC** foreign delegation at the **Vice Rector's Office for Internationalization**.

He recalled that the **Tec** and <u>UIC</u> have recently signed a strategic partnership agreement to **promote a seed funding program** for research projects developed between the **EIC** and its counterpart at the **University of Illinois at Chicago**.



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In order to achieve this goal, academics **identified 4 areas of interest** that coincide with **scientific developments** currently being carried out by the two institutions.

These disciplines are related to biotechnology and nanotechnology, bioengineering, robotics, and advanced manufacturing, as well as signal processing and data science.

"Despite the pandemic, we will continue to support research and internationalization efforts with our strategic partners," explained **Cabrera Lazarini**.

With this in mind, a call was sent out **to select 4 bioengineering projects**, each of which will receive funding from both universities of up to **60,000 dollars**.

"We're making a big effort to provide continuity to our professors' research projects," said **Alberto Hernández Luna**, director of outreach and development at the **EIC**.

"Despite the pandemic, we will continue to support research and internationalization efforts."



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As part of the second stage of the seed capital projects, another <u>call</u> was sent out: this time inviting **Tec** students **to carry out a research stay** at <u>UIC</u>.

A total of **7 student residency programs** were established, of which 4 are related to engineering and 3 to business projects.

"We want this experience to have an impact not only on students but also on teachers," explained Alberto Hernández.

The aim is to **design a specific exchange model** in which students act as ambassadors for their schools, having specialized knowledge for the projects on which they are going to collaborate.

This will allow them to contribute substantially to **meeting the goals set by the research professor** in charge of the project.

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The intention is to strengthen this exchange model and replicate it with other universities such as <u>Urbana-Champaign</u>, the <u>University of Cincinnati</u>, and <u>Purdue University</u>, said the

EIC's director of outreach and development.

Tec-UIC research projects selected for seed funding

- Acylation of anthocyanin extracts as a strategy to enhance their potential in a transgenic fish model of osteoporosis (Gail B. Mahady, Diego Luna Vital)
- Assistive SWEHO for ALS patients (Myunghee Kim, José Luis Gordillo, Omar Mendoza)
- Exosome-modified biodegradable hydrogels for local, sustained, and controlled delivery of therapeutic biologicals (Eeben Alsberg, José González Velez)
- Signal Design for Eye Tracking with Applications in Parkinson's Diagnosis and Treatment (Mojtaba Solatanalian, César Vargas Rosales)

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