

**TAMEST** *The Academy of Medicine,  
Engineering & Science of Texas*



**INNOVATING  
TEXAS**

*TAMEST ★ 2020 Annual Conference*

**RESEARCH TO COMMERCIALIZATION**

**#TAMEST2020**  **TAMEST.ORG/2020**



# Improving the Path Between Research and Commercialization in Texas

**Moderator:** Adam L. Hamilton, P.E., President & CEO, Southwest Research Institute

**Panelists:**

- Rafael L. Bras, Sc.D., Georgia Institute of Technology
- Mike Maples, Jr., Floodgate Fund
- Eric Olson, Ph.D., (NAM, NAS), UT Southwestern Medical Center
- Katie Rae, The Engine

# Southwest Research Institute Mission



Advance science and apply  
technology to solve  
humankind's most difficult  
technical challenges from  
***Deep Sea to Deep Space***

and practically everywhere in between.





# Southwest Research Institute

- Independent, Non-Profit, Applied Research & Development
- Broad Technological Base
  - Science & Engineering
- Capital Intensive Operations
- FY 2019 Consolidated Revenue ~ \$679M
- San Antonio (HQ) and Boulder based
- Approximately 2,700 Employees



Alvin Pressure Hull



Pluto from New Horizons Spacecraft

**Deep Sea to  
Deep Space®...**



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# The Ecosystem Analogy

## **Life Science**

- Biotic and abiotic components
- Nutrient cycles and energy flows
- Production
- Decomposition
- External Factors

## **Innovation and Commercialization**

- Academia, non-profits, government, industry, startups
- Funding, information, ideas
- Growth, return, value, intellectual property
- Failures, recycling
- Economies, politics, regulation

**Universities,  
National  
Labs**

**Ecosystems  
Reside in the  
“Valley of Death”**

**Industry**

Fundamental  
Science

Basic  
Research

Applied Research

Product  
Development

Production



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## Texas Can Do Better

Funding	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10
Federal	CA	MD	MA	VA	NY	NM	TX	FL	PA	OH
Industry	CA	MA	WA	MI	TX	NY	NJ	IL	PA	NC
Universities	CA	NY	TX	MI	FL	MA	IL	PA	GA	NC
Other	CA	MA	TX	NY	NJ	NC	OH	PA	MI	IL
Total	CA	MA	TX	NY	MD	WA	MI	IL	NJ	PA

*Research America*



# Insights from Successful Ecosystems

- San Francisco
  - Mike Maples, Jr., Floodgate
- Boston
  - Katie Rae, The Engine
- Atlanta
  - Rafael L. Bras, Sc.D., Georgia Institute of Technology
- Dallas
  - Eric Olson, Ph.D., UT Southwestern Medical Center



# Placeholder for Panelists' Slides



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# Thank You!

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