LifeSprout Wins $10K in AUTM Venture Challenge

Washington, DC (March 24, 2017) — LifeSprout, a Maryland-based biotech start-up from Johns Hopkins University (JHU) has won the $10,000 top prize in the Association of University Technology Managers' (AUTM) Pitch and Play business plan competition held at AUTM's 2017 Annual Meeting in Hollywood, Florida.

New company creation and development is an integral component of academic research commercialization. AUTM celebrates this mission-critical function annually through Pitch and Play – The AUTM Venture Challenge, where academic-affiliated start-up companies pitch their business opportunity to a panel of seasoned venture investors in pursuit of a cash prize.

LifeSprout, which was founded by JHU engineers, scientists and clinicians, is developing the next-generation of synthetic soft tissue substitutes for aesthetic and reconstructive medicine. Over three years of research have cumulated in a first-in-class injectable composite that is formulated to match the stiffness of native soft tissues while facilitating host tissue integration, a significant advance over traditional fillers. In the future, dermatologists and plastic surgeons using LifeSprout products can offer their patients a non-invasive and durable restoration of three-dimensional soft tissue volumes for demanding clinical cases such as breast reconstruction. The intellectual property was licensed from JHU. https://rising.jhu.edu/LifeSprout

"The AUTM Venture Challenge provided an exciting venue to pitch our business and receive feedback from industry experts. We were honored to take home the top prize," said Kevin Colbert, LifeSprout's Director of Operations.

Three other finalists were selected from 43 applicants, and made their pitch to venture capitalists at the Challenge. They were:

- **Grip Boost, Inc.:** Engineering PhDs from the University of Maryland College Park's Chemical Engineering Department teamed-up with former Terps' and Ravens' Tight End Matt Furstenburg, and Entrepreneur Businessman Harry Geller to tackle one of the biggest problems with football gloves—the rapid decline in grip. Grip Boost's quick-drying gel is applied to athletic gloves to fix that problem and has been expanded to golf and baseball gloves. The intellectual property was licensed from UMCP. www.gripboost.com

- **Multisensor Diagnostics**: Their Rapid Medical Assessment (RMA) and a triage system powered

by artificial intelligence aims to improve access to care, increase medication adherence, reduce costs, avoid hospital readmissions, detect early symptoms of disease, and ultimately empower consumers to make intelligent decisions about their own health care. Their RMA device, MouthLab, rapidly measures breathing rate and pattern, pulse rate, electrocardiogram, blood oxygen saturation, temperature, blood pressure and spirometry related lung function. MouthLab is sourced from the mouth in less than a minute without the need for any ancillary devices—and reports the data in real-time to the patient's healthcare providers. Their software supports seamless connectivity with providers, payers, patients and caregivers, and unifies all aspects of patients' health in a single place. The intellectual property was licensed from Johns Hopkins University. www.multisensordiagnostics.com

- **PathoVax**: Founded by Johns Hopkins University researchers, PathoVax offers an innovative vaccine approach to address global public health challenges by tackling infectious diseases and cancers. By utilizing an approved human papillomavirus-like particle (HPV VLP) platform, this platform can present conserved proteins to induce robust protective or therapeutic immune responses. Its lead vaccine candidate, RGVax, protects against all HPV serotypes that are known to cause cancer and is the only HPV vaccine that can be positioned as a childhood vaccine. The intellectual property was licensed from JHU and has received federal funding to enter clinical trials. www.pathovax.com

"The Challenge is a fantastic way to illustrate the exciting new technologies that emerge every year from university research and enter the marketplace," said AUTM President Mary Albertson. "These inventions are a testament to the academic-industry partnerships that are making the world a better place."

About AUTM

The Association of University Technology Managers is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing research to life by supporting and enhancing the global academic technology transfer profession through education, professional development, partnering and advocacy. AUTM's more than 3,200 members represent managers of intellectual property from more than 350 universities, research institutions and teaching hospitals around the world as well as numerous businesses and government organizations. To learn more about AUTM, visit www.autm.net.

Editor's Note: A picture of LifeSprout's winning team is attached.

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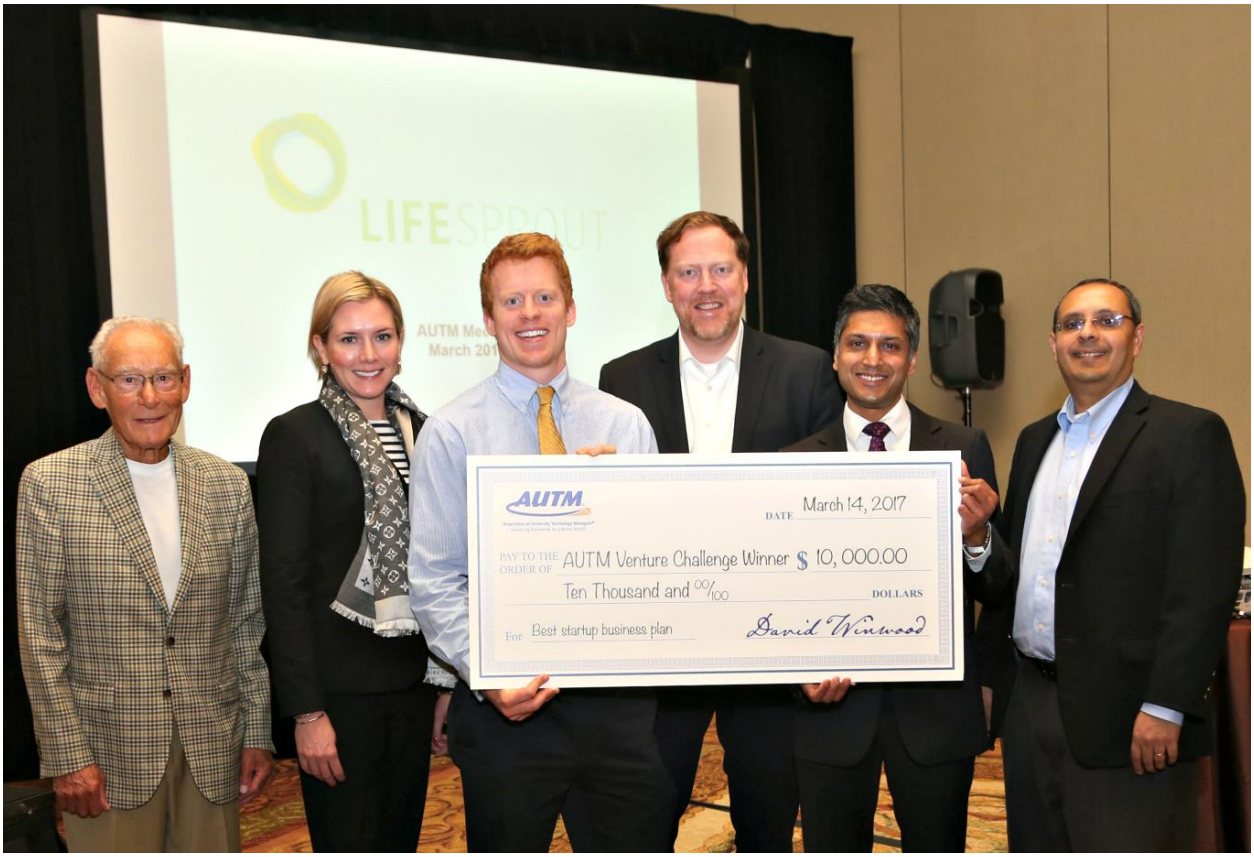

LifeSprout wins Pitch and Play – The AUTM Venture Challenge.
AUTM 2017 Annual Meeting | Hollywood, Florida

Pictured left to right: Norman Dann (Pathfinder Venture Capital), Tiffany Wilson (Global Center for Medical Innovation), Kevin Colbert (LifeSprout), Sinclair Dunlop (Epidarex Capital), Sashank Reddy (LifeSprout) and Atul Varadhachary (Fannin Innovation Studio).