

A newsletter for our community engaged in innovation, entrepreneurship, and commercialization



Top row, L to R: Jae-Hyun Chung, Ko Yee Yeung, Jiyang (Jai) He
Bottom row, L to R: Robert Miyazaki, Miqin Zhang, Wei Sun

Celebrating UW Asian/Pacific American innovators

In celebration of [National Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#), CoMotion recognizes these UW researchers making significant impact in their fields. They are advancing innovations in biomedical data analysis, biological and medical applications, imaging technology, wearables and human-machine interaction, air quality monitoring, and smart mobility solutions. Researchers received funding and/or training from several CoMotion programs including [I-Corps](#), [Idea to Plan](#), [Postdoctoral Entrepreneurship Program](#), and the [CoMotion Innovation Gap Fund](#). In addition, some will be pitching at [PubPitch](#) today, a biannual event bringing UW startups and early-stage innovators together with investors and venture capitalists.

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If you're a UW researcher, learn more about how CoMotion can support you in your innovation journey by [requesting a consultation](#) with one of our innovation managers (NetID required).

Feature Stories



Creating a biotech startup in MOLES

In January 2021, UW molecular engineering alums Jason Fontana and David Sparkman-Yager created their biotech startup, [Wayfinder Biosciences](#). The RNA engineering platform, based on research they conducted for their theses under chemical engineering professor [James Carothers](#) and chemistry professor [Jesse Zalatan](#), can be used for everything from sustainable biomaterials to targeted therapeutics. Learn how CoMotion programs such as [I-Corps](#), the [CoMotion Innovation Gap Fund](#) and [CoMotion Labs](#) supported them in their journey.

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The Mission Acceleration Center's Impact on Pacific Northwest Innovation

Six months ago, the National Security Innovation Network ([NSIN](#)) and [NavalX](#) launched the Mission Acceleration Center ([MAC](#)) to help CoMotion-supported startups and the greater Seattle innovation community build relationships with the Department of Defense ([DOD](#)). Learn about the MAC's accomplishments, from helping PNW startups navigate the Small Business Innovation Research grant application to demystifying how to engage with the government to solve critical challenges.

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Learning lessons and successes from high-speed rail projects

Looking toward a future with continued population growth in this region, momentum is building for a potential ultra-high-speed connection between the three cities that make up the Cascadia Corridor - Vancouver, B.C., Seattle, and Portland. See the latest post about the state funding commitment and benefits other ultra-high-speed connections have realized on the [UW Mobility Innovation Center](#) website.

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Funding Opportunity

NSF I-CORPS

Powered by UW CoMotion, WE-REACH, and UAF Center ICE

CoMotion I-Corps Customer Discovery training applications due May 30th

The Innovation Corps (I-Corps™) program, funded by the National Science Foundation, aims to accelerate academic research projects ready to move toward commercialization. Those who do well in the program may apply for up to \$2,500 of funding to continue testing their business hypotheses via customer discovery. See the winners from the Winter 2022 I-Corps program on [our website](#).

The program begins June 14, 2022, with final pitches July 25 - 28, 2022.

Application deadline: Monday, May 30, 2022.

[APPLY NOW](#) >

CoMotion Events

W COMOTION FUNDAMENTALS FOR STARTUPS - HARDWARE

Powered by CoMotion Labs

Did you miss our spring series?

Our *Fundamentals for Startups - Hardware* series may be over, but it's not too late to catch these informative talks. Topics range from 5G fundamentals and the second wave of 3D printing to navigating a broken supply chain or creating a technical startup as a non-technical founder.

Click on the links below to view the series on YouTube and sign up for our next lecture series, which is open to anyone interested in learning about entrepreneurship.

[VIEW THE SERIES](#) >

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CoMotion-supported researchers' accolades

- UW researchers Jay Shendure and Joseph Mougous are among 120 new members and 30 international members named to the National Academy of Sciences this year. Learn more on [UW News](#).
- [BattGenie](#) announced their \$1.5M seed round funding and receipt of a grant of \$300K from Washington State. Learn who participated in the round and what they plan to use the funds for in this [GeekWire story](#).
- Dr. Anindya Roy and his team at the UW Medicine [Institute for Protein Design](#) won a [WE-REACH](#) grant for developing a novel binder protein in an aerosolized delivery system to treat idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF).
- A COVID-19 vaccine developed at the UW School of Medicine has proven safe and effective in late-stage clinical testing. Learn more on the [Institute for Protein Design website](#).
- Katie Davis, whose [NatureCollections.app](#) encourages tweens to explore their natural surroundings, is among six iSchool researchers with an Honorable Mention at the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. Learn more in this [post on the iSchool website](#).
- InSTENT Connection and CoMotion Labs hardware incubator member [Ultronia](#) made it to the Sweet 16 in the Dempsey Startup Competition. Learn more in the [Foster School of Business blog](#).

Partner Event

Buerk Center Dempsey Startup Competition

Want to see the final round of the 2022 Dempsey Startup Competition? The Buerk Center for Entrepreneurship will post a registration link for students, staff, faculty, and the community to attend the presentations and judging of the final four teams at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 26. This is a great opportunity to see early-stage student startups present and engage with a judging panel of accomplished entrepreneurs, investors, and industry experts. A grand prize of \$25,000 is on the line!



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Meet a CoMotion Mentor



Meet Mentor Mohan Vaghul

Mohan Vaghul, CEO of OneRadio Corporation, is an entrepreneur with over 35 years of experience in leadership, marketing, and engineering management in the semiconductor and consumer electronics industry. Mohan was responsible for growing the consumer TV and LCD Panel consumer electronics chip business at Pixelworks into a multimillion-dollar outfit over nine years. In 2016, he started OneRadio Corporation, a University of Washington spinoff. Mohan has a passion for making a difference, with a laser focus on a purpose-driven approach to creating new solutions. For him, working through uncharted waters has been the norm. His expertise lies in identifying pathways from concept to commercialization and putting a team together to build on the idea and lay the foundation for scaling big. Find Mohan on our [website](#).

About CoMotion



CoMotion's mission is to partner with the UW community on their innovation journey, providing tools, connections, and acumen to transform ideas into economic and societal impact.

[JOIN THE JOURNEY](#) >