

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



Varadaraja Shenoy (left), Nuttada Panpradist, and Alicia Wassink

Women and BIPOC entrepreneurs take center stage

In a marketplace transformed by emerging technology and plagued by systemic underrepresentation of women and BIPOC perspectives, three academic entrepreneurs share with CoMotion how personal experiences and intersecting aspects of identity guide their work to build better businesses and a better world. Our long-form feature profiles these researchers and the role of CoMotion's innovation training and funding programs in their journeys.

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Parse Biosciences made headlines with its acquisition of data analyst firm Biomage. GeekWire ran stories about recent UW spinoff launches: a smart earring that monitors body temperature; and CoMotion Labs member **EdXeno**, which is developing a mobile app that simplifies the college application process. **Nora Disis** talked about her work to develop a breast cancer vaccine on KIRO-7 and the *Today* show, and Bloomberg highlighted **Banyu Carbon** for raising \$6.5M to eliminate carbon from seawater.

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UW community news

In addition to the external news coverage described above, we now highlight stories about CoMotion-supported researchers from internal UW outlets and departmental sites on a "community news" page. Recent stories include the election of [Nancy Allbritton](#) to the National Academy of Engineering; CoMotion's partnership with the UW Digital Health Innovation Hub; a new kind of chip for wireless communication; and several student-faculty collaborations on medical devices.

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Innovation Gap Fund fall '23 winners

W COMOTION INNOVATION GAP FUND

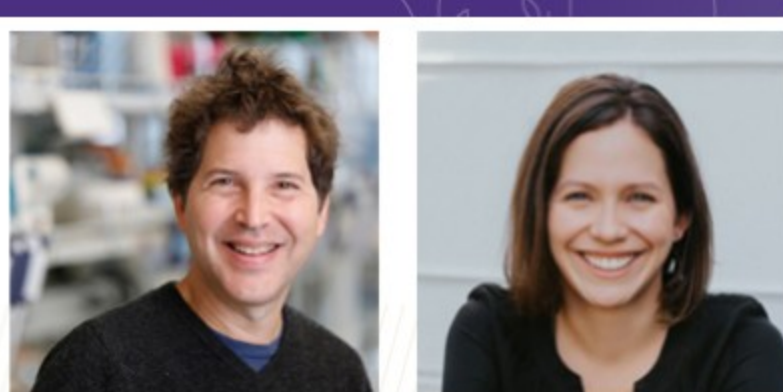
The Fall 2023 cycle saw \$450,000 awarded to 12 teams in life sciences and engineering. Innovations range from tools to optimize cities for climate impact, an earring designed to monitor women's health, and an "eNose" that detects disease from the smell of human breath. [Applications are open for the Spring 2024 cycle.](#)

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Events

W COMOTION START SOMETHING

Presented by CoMotion Labs
Sponsored by Excedr



The impact of AI on life sciences and healthcare startups: A conversation with David Baker and Jenny Cronin

Wednesday, February 28, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Join us as [Jenny Cronin](#) (principal at AI2 Incubator) interviews biochemist [David Baker](#), director of UW's [Institute for Protein Design](#), and moderates a Q&A. He'll talk about his groundbreaking research in the development of powerful machine learning methods for generating functional proteins. The in-person event is at capacity.

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Mobility Innovation Center



Mobility Innovation Center 2023 Annual Report

This past year, the [Mobility Innovation Center](#) listened to and collaborated with UW researchers and cross-sector partners to deliver projects that will shape the future of transportation, as part of the Center's ongoing work to move people and goods in smarter, more sustainable ways.

[READ THE REPORT](#) >

Partner events



The GeekWire Awards, at Showbox SoDo on May 9, celebrate the top innovators, entrepreneurs and technology leaders in the Pacific Northwest. The evening event features a seated dinner, entertainment, fun surprises, and coveted awards handed out in more than a dozen categories. [Submit community nominations here.](#)

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Meet a CoMotion mentor



Ryen Shimizu
Director of Business Development,
Igor Institute

Ryen Shimizu, a UW alumnus and CoMotion mentor since 2020, is director of business development at the Igor Institute, a hardware engineering consultancy focused on connected devices and climate tech. He works with early-stage startups across industries to engineer and manufacture physical devices, from consumer electronics to medical devices and beyond. [Connect with Ryen on LinkedIn.](#)

About CoMotion

COMOTION'S INTERCONNECTED SERVICES



CoMotion partners with the UW community on their innovation journey, providing tools, connections, and acumen to transform ideas into economic and societal impact.

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