

Partnership and co-operation between university and business can take an innovative idea, enhance it with specialized knowledge and turn that idea into a useful product. Hartronix Limited of Concord, Ontario felt that available fetal monitoring equipment did not make full use of current computer technology. They set out to design equipment that would give doctors information they could use, but Hartronix had to know what information doctors needed. They turned to the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto to help them design software that provides clinically acceptable and useful information. Hartronix and the Faculty of Medicine are continuing their collaboration.

Partnership between universities and business can benefit a university. For example, the University of Waterloo encourages the entrepreneurial spirit which, in turn, has resulted in the creation of several spin-off companies. About 25 private sector companies got their start from research work at the University of Waterloo. These companies earn the university over \$2 million a year in royalties.

At the University of British Columbia, about 10 companies have been started in the last year based on research launched by UBC researchers, which earns the university about \$500,000 a year from royalties. There are many, many more examples of partnership and co-operation between the academic world and the business world.

Partnership between the two worlds is more important now than ever. We live in a time characterized by change -- unrelenting, fundamental change in every human activity. Post-secondary education has a role in developing, sharing and spreading knowledge which goes far beyond the lecture hall and the seminar room. Canadian universities have become major research centres, doing more than 25 per cent of Canada's basic and applied research.

University co-operation and partnership with industry is not a new development. One of the longest and most successful is PAPRICAN, the research partnership between the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, McGill University and the University of British Columbia. Since 1927, PAPRICAN has done basic and applied research in pulp and paper, has trained university students in pulp and paper research, and has conducted training courses, seminars and workshops dealing with science and technology problems in the industry.

A unique problem is being studied by researchers in British Columbia. Pharmaceutical researchers have found that the bark of the Pacific Yew tree produces taxol, which is used to treat a variety of cancers. While pharmaceutical and medical researchers work with taxol, forestry and botany researchers are tackling another problem -- availability of the Pacific Yew. The tree is