

U. 2nd to MIT in new techs

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For the second year in a row, the University of Utah was ranked second in the country in starting technology companies based on research.

The rankings were contained in a survey of the Association of University Technology Managers, which lists more than 150 public and private research institutions. The U. helped start 18 companies in 2007 from technologies based on its research.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, with 24 new companies, was the only university with more startups. MIT receives more than four times as much research funding as the U., \$1.2 billion, compared to \$274.5 million.

"The support from the state of Utah and the local business community is one reason why the University of Utah has been so successful in getting new companies started," Brian Cummings, director of the University of Utah's Technology Commercialization Office, said in a news release. "The state has established an extremely friendly climate for entrepreneurs. The results are reflected by these national rankings."

The office evaluates about 200 new inventions every year. Since the inception of a specialized Technology Venture Development Office in 2005, over 60 new companies have started from the university.

Tribune staff

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