#### ADVANCED SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER SENSOR CAT

#### Who We Are

The CUNY-ASRC Sensor Center for Advanced Technology (CAT) provides matching funds for collaborative research partnerships between New York State companies and the City University of New York (CUNY). The program supports early-stage technology development on the pathway from the lab to the marketplace.

# **Opportunities Highlight**



### New York Ventures Pre-Seed and Seed Matching Fund Program

A Co-investment from NYS and now Accepting pitches! More details on NYS Website



Entrepreneurs Roundtable Accelerator

### ERA Summer 2023 program

NYC's largest accelerator program - \$150K Investment Deadline: April 17, 2023 **Apply Here** 



#### **NSF SBIR/STTR**

Seed capital for early stage product development Accepting project pitches all year round! Click here to submit!



#### FuzeHub 2023 Manufacturing Grants

Up to \$50K grants for small to medium sized manufacturing companies in New York State collaborating with nonprofits

Round 2 opens April 17, 2023!

www.ASRCSensorCAT.com

**CAT NEWSLETTER** 



## Message from the Team

With Spring in the air, the CAT has been busy springing into action! Our STEM Entrepreneurship & Tech Transfer Course has been awarded \$30K from VentureWell to include rapid prototyping as students learn to practice the entrepreneurial mindset. Last week, we attended VentureWell's Innovation Futures Fellowship Workshop and OPEN conference to learn several key takeaways:

How do we promote inclusivity in innovation? By bringing the personal and human aspects of the students' background to the forefront and practicing universal learning design where multiple means of engagement (the why), representation (the who), and expression (the how) are used in the class.

How do we encourage more creativity to come up with solutions that were never thought of before? By springing into action and learning from experiences, new solutions will emerge from the doing. A classroom setting is the perfect place, where the stakes are low, and failure should be leveraged and encouraged! As always, the CAT looks forward to supporting the growing entrepreneurial interests of our students, faculty, and startups!

# **Company Stories**

#### Natrion Inc.

In May 2020, Alex Kosyakov, NATRION

Co-Founder/CEO of Natrion and CUNY Medgar Evers College's Dr. Michele Vittadello met as the startup searched for expertise in battery materials.

The initial partnership they formed with the Vittadello lab and Dr. Xiaoping Zhu, began with a little company funding and a proof-of-concept project around synthesizing electrolytes based on a novel salt. The research had a major impact for Natrion. After a successfully funded, highly competitive, <u>US Navy STTR</u> award with MEC partnership, they had the funding to continue this partnership which has led now to a subsequent multi-year sponsored research project facilitated by the CAT and MEC.

Support from the CAT and Natrion enabled the funding of two graduate students: Sumit Kumar and Rajesh Raghupathy. Their research expertise, and that of Dr. Vittadello, is driving this collaboration forward with promising results around Ionic liquids with world-record conductivity, potential applications for Natrion's commercialization and future high-profile journal publications for the Vittadello Lab and MEC.



Dr. Michele Vittadello is Director of the M.S. Program in Nanoscience at the CUNY Graduate Center and leads the Energy Nanotechnology and Materials Chemistry team



Alex Kosvakov is the Co-Founder and CEO of Natrion. Natrion is engineering safe, high-performance, highly scalable solid-state battery technologies to facilitate the introduction of mass market-viable electric

Learn more about Natrion Inc. and the Vittadello lab at CUNY MEC Facility here.

# **News/Updates**

-Jiye Son, PhD Associate Director



We cordially invite you to join us for CUNY-ASRC CAT's 2nd Annual Symposium!

This event will bring together tech startup entrepreneurs, students, industry leaders, and ecosystem investors to discuss hard tech development/ applications to advance human and planetary health, and opportunities for economic impact in New York State.

#### Panel Highlights:

- Commercialization Pathway from Hard-Tech Startup to Venture Investment
- Startup Lightning Talks
- Convergence of Semiconductor and Biotechnology
- Funding Opportunities!

For more information and to register, visit here: BIT.LY/2ndCAT!



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