Top US universities, institutes for life sciences in 2014

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Using a ranking of US research institutions based on five years (2010–2014) of total gross licensing revenue reported by the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM), *Nature Biotechnology* obtained detailed life science commercialization information for 2014, then re-ranked these major universities by number of licenses/options executed (Table 1). Biomedical research institutes

are found in Table 2. The number of licenses executed from this group have jumped considerably (566 for 10 universities in 2013; 1,072 for 11 in 2014), life science startups also grew (93 for 10 schools in 2013; 136 for 11 in 2014). Life sciences remain the driving force behind startup creation for this group (Fig. 1), with New York University sitting atop our list of license income earners (Fig. 2).

Table 1 US universities* ranked by licenses executed, together with licensing revenue, life science startups and US National Institutes of Health (NIH) awards and funding.

University	Licenses and/or options executed	Gross licensing revenue received (\$)	Startups	NIH awards ^a	NIH funding (\$) ^a
Univ. of California System	223	109,253,453	52	4,134	1,780,390,316
Univ. of Washington/Wash. Res. Fdn.	222	51,547,500	13	933	427,465,936
Duke Univ.	124	34,117,861	4	730	350,742,239
Univ. of Minnesota	119	21,900,000	9	550	248,295,819
Univ. of Pennsylvania	103	17,000,000	11	1,106	484,421,830
Univ. of Utah	71	73,770,453	12	381	145,539,936
Columbia Univ.	68	162,000,000	12	874	351,353,417
Univ. of Illinois Chicago Urbana	49	22,630,000	5	314	114,689,235
New York Univ.	42	212,317,461	5	593	301,329,508
Univ. of Florida	31	25,699,314	6	313	129,743,178
California Inst. of Technology	20	3,485,259	7	138	63,082,330

*MIT, Stanford, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the University of Texas system also ranked highly in gross licensing revenue, but could not provide information specific to life sciences. Source: AUTM, University tech transfer offices, NIH. ^aNIH data shown for fiscal year 2014.

Table 2 US biomedical research institutes ranked by licenses executed, together with revenue, startups and NIH awards and funding in 2014.

Research institute	Licenses and/or options executed	Gross licensing revenue received (\$)	Startups	NIH awards*	NIH funding (\$)*
The General Hospital dba Massachusetts General Hospital	105	68,906,000	6	776	350,015,302
Mayo Fdn. for Medical Education and Research	94	41,497,523	7	401	201,234,282
Brigham & Women's Hospital Inc.	67	9,375,921	6	563	321,608,586
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center	42	164,769,901	1	244	113,567,614
Children's Hospital Boston	33	7,328,686	3	304	124,995,490
Dana-Farber Cancer Inst.	32	24,114,089	0	210	122,813,873
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Ctr.	32	5,847,365	4	240	108,156,442
Cleveland Clinic	28	16,246,038	4	195	80,948,724
The Salk Inst. for Biological Studies	26	3,712,937	2	79	40,510,332
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital	24	29,555,155	0	90	62,482,117

Source: AUTM, NIH. *NIH data from fiscal year 2014.

Figure 1 The life sciences accounted for the majority of incoming revenue, outgoing licenses and startups in 2014. Data from universities in Table 1.

Figure 2 Life science licensing income earners, 2014.

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