



**ROSE-HULMAN**  
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

February 26, 2009

The Honorable Richard Lugar  
306 Hart Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

I write on behalf of the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology to respectfully ask that you submit a request to the Senate Appropriations Committee to fund our Rose-Hulman Ventures (RHV) Project.

RHV's participation in the Terre Haute Innovation Alliance has established a proven pathway through which the federal government can provide innovation-based economic development assistance to the Wabash Valley. Under that model, federal funding was used to buy down the costs of RHV services for technology-based start-ups that could benefit from RHV and ISU services. To enhance this activity, we propose a Rose-Hulman Ventures partnership with the Terre Haute Economic Development Corp. as well as the relevant economic development authorities surrounding the Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center in which 10 technology-based startups will receive commercialization services at rates that are within their financial means. We anticipate that the positive results of this partnership could lay the foundation for a replicable model that will have national economic impact.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry", written over a white background.

Gerald S. Jakubowski, Ph.D.  
President