

Wright State's Amit Sheth honored by Ohio Faculty Council for his technology commercialization success

The Ohio Faculty Council has honored Amit Sheth, LexisNexis Ohio Eminent Scholar and executive director of Wright State's Ohio Center of Excellence in Knowledge-Enabled Computing, for his success in commercializing technology.

Sheth was named runner-up in the council's annual Technology Commercialization Award program.

The honor recognizes faculty members in the state university system in Ohio for exceptional research discoveries and the role they have played in supporting the translation of those discoveries into marketable products and/or services.

Twitris technology developed under the leadership and guidance of Sheth is computer software that employs a sophisticated algorithm that analyzes words, emotions and other factors in Tweets on a massive scale to provide unprecedented insights, suggestions, actions or predicted outcomes.

For example, Sheth and his collaborators used Twitris to predict that Great Britain would vote to leave the European Union before voting was over and that Donald Trump would win the U.S. presidential election hours before polls closed. Twitris has applications in finance, branding, law enforcement, emergency management and other areas.

Sheth commercialized Twitris in partnership with Wright State's tech-transfer office, which has exclusively licensed it to Cognovi Labs LLC.

Jason Heikenfeld, professor of electrical engineering and computer systems at the University of Cincinnati, was the council's top award recipient for his non-invasive sweat biosensing technology that has applications in medicine, industry and sports. He has leveraged the technology and 26 associated patents into the creation of a start-up company, Eccrine Systems, which has grown to several dozen employees and been recognized by Bloomberg as one of the 50 best startups in the country.

"The public university system of Ohio is a key incubator for innovation, and the OFC embraces the opportunity to celebrate the role that our phenomenal faculty play in economic development," said Dan Krane, chair of the Ohio Faculty Council and professor of biological sciences at Wright State.

The council represents the faculty at all of the four-year public universities in Ohio. It addresses concerns common to faculty and presents a faculty perspective on major issues affecting higher education. It is committed to supporting and bringing attention to the critical role that Ohio's institutions of higher education play in revitalizing the economy of the state and the nation by attracting and training an educated workforce. Learn more at www.ohiohighered.org/ofc