



Ohio Faculty Council

*Chair, Laura Luehrmann, Wright State University
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PRESS RELEASE

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Today, Dr. Shahid Nimjee, Associate Professor of Neurosurgery at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, received the Ohio Faculty Council's (OFC) Technology Commercialization Award in recognition of his groundbreaking research and marketization of next generation treatments for acute ischemic strokes. Ohio's Lieutenant Governor, Jon Husted, attended the OFC monthly meeting to provide his personal congratulations.

This annual award, launched in 2016, recognizes a faculty member within Ohio's state supported universities for exceptional research discoveries and the transition of these discoveries into marketable products and/or services.

Dr. Nimjee is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Neurosurgery, Radiology, Neuroscience and Anatomy, and Surgical Director of the Comprehensive Stroke Center at the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. He is also an Associate Professor in the Division of Neurological Surgery at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, as well as the co-founder and Chief Medical Officer of Basking Biosciences. With a passionate commitment to service, he is Vice Chair of the Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the OSU Wexner Medical Center. He graduated from Duke University's School of Medicine after earning a Bachelor of Science, with Distinction, in Biology as well as the History of Medicine, from Yale University.

Dr. Nimjee's findings, based on more than two decades of research, will enable more stroke patients to receive treatments for a longer period of time after stroke onset. Currently, the only FDA-approved pharmacologic therapy for blood clots caused by acute ischemic strokes (which affect 700,000 people in the US annually, resulting in an estimated 140,000 deaths in the US alone), is restricted to between 3 and 4.5 hours after the beginning of a stroke. His research and the treatments it will inspire expand the treatment window to potentially up to 24 hours post onset, aligning with a critical need in cardiovascular care.

"Dr. Nimjee has invented a next generation treatment for acute ischemic stroke that makes it possible to carefully control the disruption of life-threatening blood clots in the brain while also preventing intracerebral hemorrhaging. This therapy has the potential to successfully treat hundreds of thousands of patients a year," stated Dr. Tom Zupancic, the Chief Scientific Officer at InfinixBio. Dr. Zupancic chaired the independent judging panel for the OFC Technology Commercialization Award, which included Representative Rick Carfagna (R-Genoa Twp.) and

Charles See, Vice Chancellor for External Relations and Education Technology with the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

In nominating Dr. Nimjee for the award, Wayne Embree, Executive Vice President, Venture Acceleration and Investments with Rev1 Ventures in Columbus, stated that Dr. Nimjee's "first and strongest driver is to improve healthcare to save lives and improve quality of life for afflicted individuals. His dedication, skill and clear product focus" inspire investors to support his work for clinical trials and development to market.

"I want to express my sincere appreciation to the Ohio Faculty Council for selecting me to receive the OFC Technology Commercialization Award. We are committed to bringing new, robust treatments to stroke patients to reduce the morbidity and mortality of this debilitating disease," shared Dr. Nimjee.

"Our faculty across the state of Ohio are truly conducting life-transforming research," said Dr. Laura Luehrmann, chair of the Ohio Faculty Council and Professor of Political Science at Wright State University. "It is fantastic that our Council is able to recognize the outstanding work of our superb faculty, so much of which is made possible by the crucial investment in higher education by the state of Ohio. These innovations not only attract top researchers, students and businesses to the Buckeye state, but also, as seen in the case of Dr. Nimjee's findings, directly impact the quality of life of our citizens."

Competition for this annual award is intense, and reflects the caliber of work being conducted at Ohio's public universities. "Overall, the judges agreed that the three finalists were all excellent and it was challenging to select a single winner. It is a tribute to the quality of Ohio's state supported universities that work of such high quality is being accomplished," according to Zupancic.

The Ohio Faculty Council represents faculty at all of Ohio's four-year public universities. It addresses concerns common to faculty members across the state and presents a faculty perspective on major issues affecting higher education. It supports and brings attention to the critical role that Ohio's institutions of higher education play in revitalizing the economy of Ohio and the nation by attracting and preparing an educated and engaged workforce.

