

# SPACE RACE, a PDN Innovation Challenge

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*IMPACT in the Paso del Norte  
Region by Hyper-Accelerating  
NASA and NIH Technologies*

*A partnership between:*



MEDICAL CENTER  
OF THE AMERICAS  
FOUNDATION



THE CENTER FOR ADVANCING  
INNOVATION

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[www.MCAmericas.org](http://www.MCAmericas.org)  
[www.SPACE-RACE.org](http://www.SPACE-RACE.org)

## Differentiators & Partnership

### *Proven Accelerator*

Leverages an award-winning Startup Challenge model, a disciplined systematic approach, structured training, and aligned mentoring

### *Rapid, Tangible Results*

Strong potential to launch a high impact company using risk-mitigated NIH and NASA inventions

### *Galvanize and Maximize*

Maximize the potential of your ecosystem resources to position your region as a leader for commercialization and industrial growth

### *Unique Opportunity:*

- Commercialize a promising NASA or NIH invention
- Learn the “business of science” and how to be an entrepreneur through CAI’s accelerator training
- Engage with world-class mentors
- Garner unprecedented media attention
- Win prize money

### *Social Impact:*

- Regional and national economic growth through job and new market creation
- Improve the translational research business model
- Potentially advance life-saving or life-improving technology

### *Partnership*

The Medical Center of the Americas Foundation (MCA), the Center for Advancing Innovation (CAI), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

### *About MCA*

MCA works to position the Paso del Norte region as a global leader in healthcare and biomedical innovation through the development of a world-class academic medical campus, a science & technology park, research and commercialization facilities, and programs aimed at spurring innovation and entrepreneurship in the region.

**Emma W. Schwartz, President**

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**Jeff Fuchsberg, Director of Intellectual Property**

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### *About CAI*

CAI leverages novel models and new paradigms to maximize the commercial potential of an organization’s promising inventions, and is managing the activities associated with this challenge.

**Rosemarie Truman, Founder & Chairwoman**

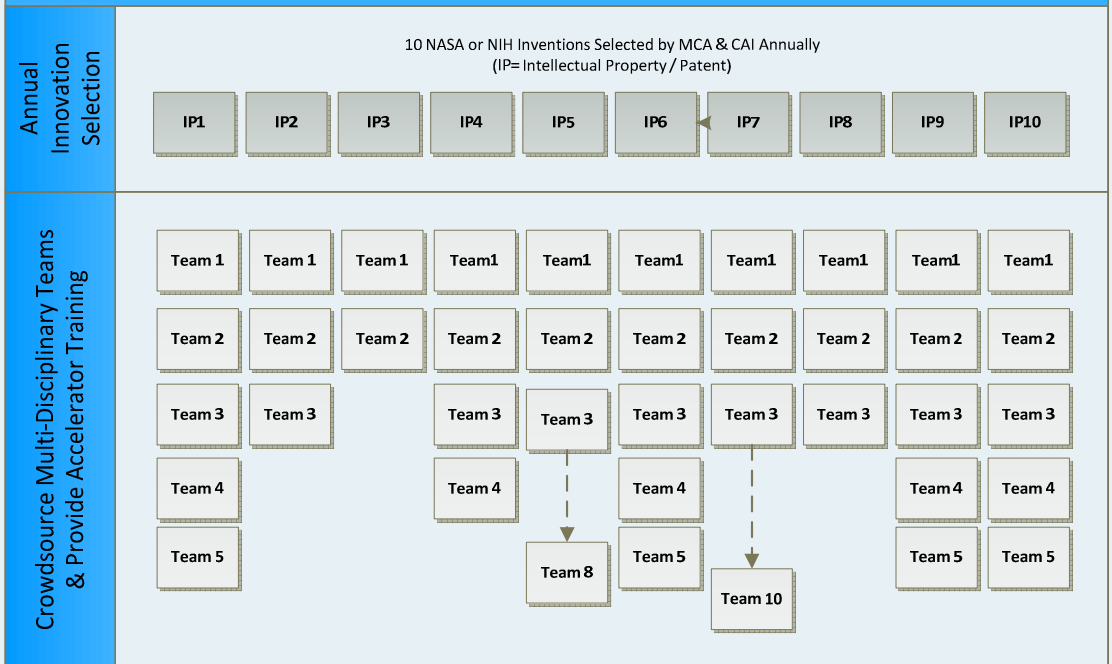
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# Space Race, a PDN Innovation Challenge - powered by the MCA & CAI

Vignette of Annual Challenge → 4 Challenges will be run by MCA & CAI, annually, from 2016 through 2019



## Accelerator & Support

### Accelerator: & Team Support

- 40+ classes, web-based, mandatory with homework
- Live “hosting” of training sessions at Cardwell Collaborative
- Weekly office hours
- Mentoring by regional incubator staffs (MCA, HUB of Human Innovation, Arrowhead Innovation Center)
- Support from regional universities:
  - ⇒ The University of Texas at El Paso
  - ⇒ Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
  - ⇒ New Mexico State University
  - ⇒ Tech de Monterrey, Juarez & Chihuahua City
  - ⇒ Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juarez

## Form your team.... START NOW!

### Multi-Disciplinary Team Requirements:

- Serial, Seasoned Entrepreneur
- Business
- Legal
- Engineering
- Other Sciences, e.g., Cancer Biology, Chemistry
- Students (undergrad, graduate, post-doc, MD/DO, etc.)
- Other Complimentary Skills
  - \* Must be 18 years or older to be on a team
  - \* All participants in the challenge must sign a Letter of Intent and Confidentiality / Non-Disclosure Agreement

<http://www.space-race.org/interested/>

## The Challenge & Timeline

### Challenge Goal

Accelerate and increase the volume of new startups in the Paso del Norte (PDN) region by commercializing NASA and NIH inventions, creating sustainable economic growth by unlocking the region's entrepreneurial potential.

### What is it?

A business plan and start-up challenge, featuring inventions developed by professionals at NASA and NIH, over four years based on PDN regionally-relevant technology clusters:

*Year 1* = Advanced Manufacturing (biomed devices, optics, etc.)

*Year 2* = Life Sciences

*Year 3* = Clean Energy & Water Tech

*Year 4* = Security (border & cyber)

Multi-disciplinary teams will enter the business plan competition based on the NASA and NIH technologies selected by MCA and CAI. Teams will engage in a robust accelerator training that will help to build their business plans, then pitch to a panel of judges on demo day. Winning teams will be given a monetary prize and be encouraged to found a start-up company, licensing the technology from NASA or NIH. Winning teams that form start-ups will be eligible to apply for regional seed funding.

### Challenge End Point

40+ new technology-based startups launched over four years

