

## “Startups, Tech Commercialization and BME”

**Tim Martin, M.S.**

Senior Licensing Associate  
Office of Research Commercialization  
North Carolina State University



Tim Martin, MS, Senior Licensing Associate for the NC State Office of Research Commercialization manages technologies and advises startup companies in the medtech, biotech and design industries. He oversees the Sweat Equity Challenge program that provides crucial proof of concept funding for software startup companies. Tim advises NC State innovators on the process of intellectual property filing, startup company formation, industry marketing and startup company funding.

Prior to accepting the role at NC State, Tim led Augment Medical (NC State startup company) through early-stage grant funding and product development. At the same time, Tim took a role of Project Engineer at Yukon Medical in Durham, NC that designed and developed Class II pharmaceutical devices for chemotherapy treatment. Tim then switched gears and took a position as Assistant Director of KickStart Venture Services at UNC-CH. At KickStart, Tim led the Commercialization Award program, created a graduate extern program for startups and managed a portfolio of therapeutics, medical devices, and diagnostic startup companies. In the fall of 2018, Tim moved to the University of Georgia in Athens as the Associate Director for the Startup Program, working with faculty and students to educate, mentor, guide and advise UGA startups through initial formation, funding, and growth strategy. Tim’s company portfolio was focused on the therapeutic, medical device and diagnostic startup companies. While at UGA, he launched an optimized startup licensing program, the Georgia Startup License, successfully built from the ground up based on best practices and key optimizations to the technology transfer industry. At UGA, Tim also led the NSF I-Corps site and successfully trained over 120 teams of faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, staff, and community members over 10 cohorts.

Tim received his B.S. in Biomedical Engineering from North Carolina State University and his M.S. in Biomedical Engineering from the Joint Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and N.C. State where he developed nanoporous and thin film gold and silver metal alloys to study their medical applications in drug delivery and antimicrobial applications. While in graduate school, Tim co-founded a university spin-out startup company, Augment Medical, that designed and developed a patented patient communication system for people with communication disabilities in the hospital room. In his spare time, Tim enjoys spending time with his son Henry, wife Emily, dog Annie and cat Olive. Tim also enjoys running on neighborhood trails and cycling.

### ABSTRACT

Have you ever wondered what it takes to start a business? Are you interested in a non-academic career path? I sat in your shoes 12 years ago at these seminars wondering what my future might hold. I am now at NC State in the Office of Research Commercialization (aka tech transfer) and working with faculty, grad students and investors to help get the inventions from NCSU off the bench and impacting our lives. I’ll cover a little of my background and some ways you can participate here at NCSU and UNC in the Joint Department!

Friday, March 11th  
12:00 Noon

Presented Virtually via Webex: <https://go.unc.edu/Pq73X>