Starting Your Own Lab

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Your Own Small Business

• Start with ideas
• Add people
• Produce results
Your Own Small Business

• Start with ideas
  – What are the “unfair advantages” of your abilities and situation?
  – Feasibility and impact – create a portfolio
  – Stay focused
  – Constantly re-evaluate “risk curve”

• Add people
  – You are way more effective than anyone you hire!
  – Start small – management takes time and practice!
  – Keep people who are interested and able

• Produce results
  – Make sure you have best case/expected case/worst case plans
  – Make sure you can connect what you are doing with larger themes/problems ideas in your community
Funding (yes this is a business)

• Don’t be afraid to invest your startup (that is why its called startup!)

• Grant writing is a creative process *and* a planning activity -- know your audience!
  – Which to emphasize depends who you are writing to!

• Find and use *beneficial* collaborations

• Realities are that you’ll likely be successful at most 1/5-1/3 of the time
  – If you write 2/yr then your expected funding in six years is ..?
Do What is Fun!