

**Professor Adela Ben-Yakar Awarded UTAustin Innovation Grant made possible by a donation from Michael, Best & Friedrich**

[Adela Ben-Yakar](#) is Professor of Mechanical Engineering in the Cockrell School of Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Ben-Yakar, recipient of the National Institute of Health's Transformative Award to study the role of the nervous system in aging and disease, has garnered \$5.4 million in funding to advance the development of a platform that significantly reduces the time for drug discovery, genetic screening, and toxicology analysis. She has developed the next generation fully automated, high-resolution and high-speed microfluidic imaging platform.

Professor Ben-Yakar will use the \$31,000 Innovation Grant to improve the fabrication of the platform and to establish partnerships and collaborations with key alliances at R&D centers, institutes and universities.

The Innovation Center's Innovation Grants program bridges the funding gap between research and commercialization. Specifically, it enables UTAustin professors to assess and advance the commercializability of their successful research.

If you are interested in learning more or in making a tax-deductible gift so that what starts here CAN change the world, contact Louise Epstein, Managing Director, Innovation Center at the Cockrell School of Engineering. [Louise.Epstein@utexas.edu](mailto:Louise.Epstein@utexas.edu) or 512-567-1849. [www.engr.utexas.edu/innovation](http://www.engr.utexas.edu/innovation)