This essay focuses on one major aspect of university-industry involvement: research and dissemination interactions that are both formal and informal in nature. Throughout we approach the topic from the university perspective. Thus, we will take as a given that these relationships can be beneficial for industry participants and for community economic development more generally.

In this essay we discuss the major advantages and disadvantages of such interactions for the university. We then survey some dimensions of recent arrangements in the U.S. Next we provide a brief discussion of the current arrangements in the New York/New Jersey/Connecticut tri-state region and suggest paths for future data collection. And we offer some concluding remarks.