Figure 5-1. Levels of University-Industry Interaction

High-Level Interaction: Dependent Partners

- Formal industrial input regarding systems-level, enabling-technology, and fundamental knowledge needs
- Generic and fundamental research, inspired, sponsored, and monitored by industrial consortium
- Ongoing targeted research sponsored by an individual firm, integrated with their entire research program
- Ongoing technology transfer and licensing, with industrial input throughout process.
- Planned spin-off companies, with industrial input on technology development
- Substantial industrial interaction with students in advance of graduation from the ERC
- Training program scaled to meet current and long-term hiring needs of industrial partners

Intermediate-Level Interaction: Independent Collaborators

- Occasional information transfer among faculty and industrial advisory board members
- Transfer of technology already developed independently at university
- Scholarship funding and other charitable contributions

Low-Level Interaction: Acquaintances

- One-way information transfer: University to Industry
- Short-term recruiting to fill current hiring needs of industrial firm