Campus Company News # 1

Ireland holds the Presidency of the European Research Council for the next 6 months. To mark the start of its term, Enterprise Ireland held a launch event at their offices where TCD campus company Cellix Ltd was highlighted as one of 19 companies who have benefited from European Union funding to support R&D.

Vivienne Williams, CEO of Cellix Ltd, pictured explaining Cellix’s innovative technology to Minister Richard Bruton.  www.cellixltd.com

TR&I Associate Director Moves On

Upon completion of his 5-year contract as Associate Director of Trinity Research & Innovation, Dr James Callaghan has moved on to pastures new. His many achievements during his time here include streamlining of TCD’s Campus Company approval process. This resulted in 35 companies being approved within 5 years, the highest number from any Irish research institution and equating to over 20% of all Irish University campus companies formed. The Provost paid tribute to James’ achievement during a recent Campus Company celebration. (See across)

James Callaghan PhD (Cam.)

Campus Company News # 2

Creme Global, is a TCD campus company spun out of the Trinity Centre for High Performance Computing in 2005. Creme works with its customers to understand exposure of consumers to chemicals.

In recent months Creme has been working with their customers on the beef / horse-meat issue, specifically confirmed reports of phenylbutazone or “bute” being found in horsemeat. Creme Global has carried out extensive analysis and modelling of consumer exposure to bute in horsemeat under different scenarios, aiming to understand the potential exposure levels, and associated health risks, for consumers across Europe. For more information see www.cremeglobal.com

Provost hosts Campus Company Event

On the evening of 30th January, the Provost held a Reception in honour of CEOs & Founders of Campus Companies. At the event the Provost highlighted the fact that twenty per cent of all spin-out companies in Ireland stem from Trinity, which he described as a remarkable figure. He went on to congratulate the Trinity TTO, for achieving 200% of its target number of campus companies, under its first Enterprise Ireland technology Transfer grant, 2007-2012

The full text of the Provost’s speech is available at http://www.tcd.ie/provostAddresses/2013-01-30_CampusCompanies.php

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Lots of Licences in 2012!

In the calendar year 2012, the TTO negotiated and signed more licences than in any previous year. Fifteen companies – ranging from large multi-nationals to small TCD campus companies - were granted licences to develop and use the outputs of TCD research for commercial purposes. The licensed intellectual property was created in the Schools of Computer Science & Statistics (8), Engineering (3), Physics (2), Psychology (1) and Medicine (1).

Academic-Industry collaboration on Automated Cell-Based Research Technologies

Dr Anthony Davies, Institute of Molecular Medicine, TCD, and Dr Peter Horvath, ETH Zurich, Switzerland recently hosted the inaugural meeting of the European Cell-based Assays Interest Group (EuCAI) at TCD, facilitated by the TTO. The intention of the EuCAI is to establish stronger collaborative links between academia and industry in using advanced robotics, automated light microscopy and computer based data analysis tools, to deliver experimental data far more rapidly than currently and develop novel therapies for the treatment of human disease.

Launch of Student Start-Up Accelerator

The Technology Transfer Office is playing a major role in the Dean of Research’s initiative to foster a culture of entrepreneurship amongst TCD students. LaunchBox is a 3-month accelerator programme open to teams of Trinity students (undergraduate and/or postgraduate) with an early-stage business idea. This unique incubator will provide coaching, expert advice, seed-funding and access to space and facilities needed to test out and launch new ventures. The LaunchBox programme aims to support students in developing investor-ready ventures.

Supported by the Trinity Angels, a network of TCD’s alumni and friends, LaunchBox offers an innovative combination of practice and education. Dr Margaret Woods, Technology Transfer Manager said “LaunchBox is a very welcome initiative to encourage and support student entrepreneurs. The opportunity to engage with experienced alumni should be particularly valuable.”

The current call for applications is open until 5th April and up to 5 successful teams are expected to be funded in the pilot programme over the Summer 2013. See www.launchbox.ie for details.

Three new TCD Campus Companies Approved

In Q1, 2013, three TCD Campus Companies were approved by the TTO. These include Adama Innovations Ltd. from the School of Physics & CRANN, Personalotels Ltd. from the School of Mathematics and Emizar Ltd. from the School of Computer Science and Statistics.