

CONNECT + INNOVATE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER Q1 2012

Welcome to the latest edition of the information sharing newsletter from the National University of Ireland Maynooth Commercialisation Office. Our goal is to share relevant market news and activities on the commercialisation of NUI Maynooth research. We hope you enjoy this newsletter. For more information visit:

EI INNOVATION VOUCHER PROGRAMME

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Enterprise Ireland have announced a new call for the Innovation Voucher Programme:
Open for applications from 12th March to 28th March 2012.

The Innovation Voucher Programme was developed by EI to build links between Ireland's small businesses and the public knowledge providers (i.e. higher education institutes). Innovation Vouchers worth €5,000 are available to assist a company to explore a business opportunity or problem in partnership with a registered knowledge provider. The Innovation Vouchers Programme is open to all small (limited registered) companies (less than 50 employees) in Ireland. Note: the companies are responsible for the VAT element on the voucher.



To check out the eligibility criteria and to apply for an Innovation Voucher please go to the EI website where you can download an application form. We can assist you with any questions.

STANFORD v ROCHE, USA

IP UPDATE

A recent Supreme Court Ruling in the United States reinforces the importance of obtaining a valid current Intellectual Property Assignment from all employees, and ensuring that employees understand the effects of signing assignment agreements. In *Stanford v Roche*, both made claim on the IP developed by a Stanford academic, who had worked on a short research project with Roche. The Court ruled against Stanford in this case because of the wording (tense) used in the invention assignment agreement with the academic. The academic agreed "to assign his rights to Stanford in the future" but it was deemed by the Court not to be an actual assignment with immediate effect. On the other hand Roche's agreement with the academic read "will assign and do[es] hereby assign" which the Court ruled assigned all future inventions made, including those made after the academics work was complete at Roche.



The learning outcome for University Technology Transfer Offices is to ensure that their assignment clauses contain an immediate assignment of future inventions for all employees.

Source: ROTHMAN & STULBERG, LLP, Cambridge, MA., USA.

Steve Burrill, the San Francisco merchant banker is one of the best connected people in the life sciences industry. In his recent 25th Anniversary State of the Industry address he talked about how healthcare entrepreneurs can survive a financial crisis, regulatory uncertainty, the coming disputation of genome based personalised medicine and a transformation of how insurers and governments will pay for new drugs, devices and diagnostics.

Burrill said. The biggest problems facing the world today - climate change, national security, food production and health care - are all problems that biotechnology seeks to address.

A confluence of technology will vastly change diagnostics in the next decade. Biomedicine should be prepared for a consumer-driven health care system where patients will be connected electronically and pharmaceuticals will be priced globally in a pro-generics environment.



COMMERCIALISATION AWARD

NUI MAYNOOTH UPDATE

Tim McCarthy was presented with the 2011 Commercialisation Award at our January Commercialisation Workshop. Tim's work within the National Centre for GeoComputation (NCG) and StratAg at NUI Maynooth has a strong commercial dimension which is reflected in his recent spinout company 'IGeotech' which is due to launch its first product this year. The precise application of the product is commercially sensitive but all will be revealed shortly!

Tim has over 20 years broad based geospatial project research experience, gained in both industry and academic environments. Tim's research areas are focused on novel multi-sensor mapping and monitoring systems and 3D geovisualisation.



Tim McCarthy, PhD (right) being presented with the **Annual 2011 Commercialisation Award** by Professor Philip Nolan, President National University of Ireland Maynooth

The Annual Commercialisation Award recognises excellence in the commercialisation of research at NUI Maynooth. We consider activity such as licence deals, spin-outs and linking with industry as key factors in bringing research to the market place. Previous winners include Ronan Farrell, the Callan Institute; John Lowry, Chemistry Department; Kevin Kavanagh and Sean Doyle, Biology Department and Ross O'Neill of Mutebutton (formerly with the Hamilton Institute).

COMMENTS + QUESTIONS

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