



**QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**  
**Q3 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:

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**PROGRAMMES UPDATE**

The Commercialisation Office continues to focus on developing new commercialisation opportunities, growing business development and increasing industry links. The drive to increase the number of opportunities recently resulted in a large number of new SFI TIDA applications across a wide range of disciplines. Commercialisation Executive Paul Tyndall assisted in ensuring the applications were positioned vis-a-vis SFI's new strategy of driving impact from research.

Enterprise Ireland just completed a workshop to promote the use of the Commercial Case Feasibility Support to PI's and Post-docs as a first step toward making an application to the Commercialisation Fund. This funding support (up to €15K) can be obtained by researchers, in partnership with their Technology Transfer Office, for a short feasibility project (up to 3 months) to scope and develop the commercial case for their technology. Researchers who have not had funding previously from the Enterprise Ireland Commercialisation Fund Programme are particularly encouraged to consider this support.

In addition to national funding options the final call for applications to the EU FP7 call prior to Horizon 2020 has re-opened for submissions <http://www.fp7ireland.com/>

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**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT NEWS**

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**NATIONAL IP PROTOCOL ANNOUNCEMENT**

**IP UPDATE**

Minister Richard Bruton recently announced the introduction of new structures to make it easier to commercialise ideas developed through publicly-funded research, which currently receives total funding of over €800million per year. These structures aim to encourage more businesses to commercialise R&D by ensuring that they can access the results of State-funded R&D with greater ease and certainty.

There is strong commitment to the Programme for Government and the Action Plan for Jobs and actions taken over the past year to deliver on this includes the approval of legislation to extend the remit of Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) to include applied research, and the implementation of Research Prioritisation to ensure that publicly-funded research is aimed at areas with the greatest potential for commercialisation and job-creation.

Minister Bruton said: "A key part of Government's plan for jobs and growth is ensuring that we create more products, services and ultimately jobs from Ireland's top quality scientific research system. The quality of our R&D is already a major part of the reason for the success of our multinational and indigenous companies, but we must do more".

[Download Full Text of National IP Protocol](#)

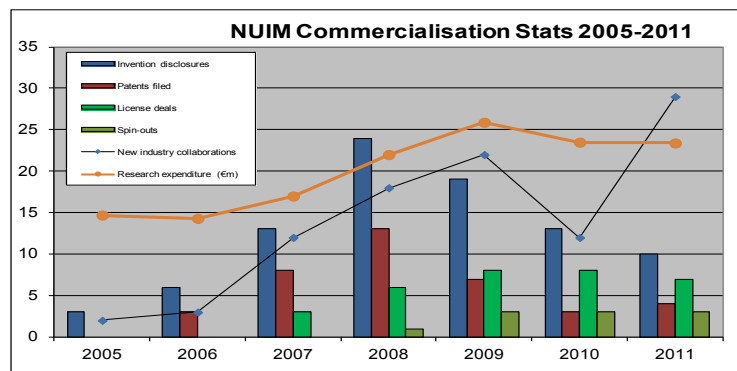
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The Technology Transfer Strengthening Initiative (TTSI) is an Enterprise Ireland programme to support and incentivise higher education institutes (HEIs) to engage in technology transfer (TT) and commercialisation of research results. Funding is provided for staff and operations to encourage HEIs to commercialise intellectual property arising from research, interact productively at different levels with industry partners, and develop a culture of technology transfer and commercialisation.

Throughout the course of the TTSI phase 1 programme, from mid 2007 to December 2012, NUI Maynooth has developed a focused TT function, and reports annual metrics of high quality relative to its research expenditure. The office performs well not only in metrics such as licence deals, spin-outs and industry links, but has developed a reputation for excellence. The culture of commercialisation at NUI Maynooth has blossomed over the course of TTSI phase 1 and industry and entrepreneurial partners speak highly of the office efficiency and working methods.

Under the TTSI phase 2 call, which will provide support for 4 years 2013-2016, we requested support for a TT consortium comprising NUI Maynooth (NUIM) as lead, supporting partner institutes, Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT), Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT) and Institute of Technology Carlow (ITC). NUI Maynooth will provide general TT case management support, best practice advice and leadership to the consortium. The consortium will work as a unit, sharing resources, adopting common policies and management systems to ensure efficiencies and excellence in TT as appropriate.

Meanwhile, our Business Incubation Centre (BIC) is on track for completion in early 2014 and is part of the ICT hub, which will integrate the academic and entrepreneurial communities. The Centre will house spin-out and spin-in companies across a range of disciplines and allow NUI Maynooth to attract growth companies to engage in collaboration with the University. The BIC will also offer a broad spectrum of support services and mentoring to clients in addition to specialised lab, innovation and networking space.



**NEW FRONTIERS PROGRAMME**

**NUI MAYNOOTH UPDATE**

The Enterprise Ireland New Frontiers Programme provides wide ranging support for entrepreneurs in the early stages of business development and is being run by NUI Maynooth in conjunction with Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT). The programme provides mentoring, salary and incubation space for clients who have ideas with the potential to become high performance spin-outs (HPSU's). We are delighted to reach out to the community and provide critical early stage support and introduce the entrepreneurs to our network. The clients came through a competitive first stage to get into the final 14 and are based at AIT and NUI Maynooth. With a diverse range of business ideas (from pipe-laying to software) and backgrounds, they are a welcome addition to the campus and will have a positive impact on the university culture. The six month programme provides an accelerated learning environment to better position the entrepreneurs on their journey. If you have a project you would like considered for the programme please feel free to contact our office. <http://commercialisation.nuim.ie/news-and-events/new-frontiers-programme>

Photo below: 2012 New Frontiers Programme mentors and successful participants.



**COMMENTS + QUESTIONS**

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