



INNOVATION NEWS

ISSUE 3 SUMMER 2016

RCSI DEVELOPING HEALTHCARE LEADERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WORLDWIDE

Welcome to the Summer issue of the RCSI Innovation quarterly newsletter which provides news updates and resources for RCSI researchers looking to engage further in commercialisation and industry collaboration.

This edition highlights a number of recently commenced industry funded and co-funded projects from the labs of Dr Leonie Young, Prof Fergal O'Brien and Prof Zena Moore. We also highlight upcoming funding opportunities – the EI commercialisation fund and the SFI industry fellowship.



It has been an active quarter with the organisation of two industry focused events, the continuation of the innovation quarterly workshop programme with an excellent presentation from GSK, the first post doc coffee morning and the first innovation training session.

This month Michelle Kelly joined the Innovation Team and is responsible for the review and negotiation of contacts relating to RCSI's research activities. Michelle joins RCSI from Trinity College Dublin.

Finally we are delighted that RCSI was shortlisted for three Knowledge Transfer Ireland Impact awards, congratulations to Prof Frank Keane and Mr Ken Mealy along with Prof Fergal O'Brien who were finalists in their categories of consultancy and spin out respectively.

Details of all of these events are given below and also on the [Innovation Website](#).

Best wishes,
Aoife Gallagher
Head of Innovation



Pictured (l-r) above: Sara Charmsaz, RCSI, Aoife Gallagher, RCSI, Orla Cunningham, Director Biotherapeutics, Pfizer, Leonie Young, RCSI

RCSI researchers Dr Leonie Young and Prof Arnold Hill awarded prestigious SFI-Pfizer Biotherapeutics Innovation Award.

Dr Leonie Young and Prof Arnold Hill at RCSI were one of three research groups in Ireland to receive a prestigious SFI-Pfizer Biotherapeutics Innovation Award. The Science Foundation Ireland and Pfizer funded programme provides qualified academic researchers with an opportunity to deliver important potential discoveries in the areas of immunology, oncology, cardiovascular and rare diseases. Leonie and Arnie's work focusses on the underlying mechanisms that control breast cancer resistance to traditional chemotherapeutics. This programme provides funding for three years and will better characterize, and effectively target, treatment resistant breast cancers.

[Read more here.](#)



Pictured above (l-r) are Prof Raymond Stallings, Director of Research; RCSI; Minister for Enterprise, Jobs and Innovation Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD; Dr Aoife Gallagher, Head of Innovation, RCSI; Dr Seamus Browne, Industry Liaison Manager, RCSI; Prof Fergal O'Brien, Deputy Director of Applied Research, RCSI.

RCSI wins national award for Knowledge Transfer Initiative of the Year and is shortlisted for two additional KTI impact awards

RCSI was well represented at this year's Knowledge Transfer Ireland Impact Awards. The awards, held in The Royal Hospital Kilmainham last Thursday, recognise and showcase success in knowledge transfer carried out in Irish Higher Education Institutes across seven categories. RCSI's Innovation team were proud to accept the Knowledge Transfer Initiative of the Year Impact Award

RCSI was also shortlisted in two other categories:

1. Consultancy Impact Award - Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and the HSE National Programme for Surgery - Prof Frank Keane & Mr Ken Mealy
2. Spin-out Company Impact Award - SurgaColl Technologies Ltd – Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland - Academic Founder: Prof Fergal O'Brien

[Read more about the awards here.](#)



RCSI Partner on Pressure Ulcer Prevention Research

RCSI' School of Nursing & Midwifery and Bruin Biometrics, a developer of innovative sensor-based diagnostic products, have entered into a research collaboration that aims to harness advances in bioimpedance science to enable early detection and monitoring of pressure ulcer development.

This fully funded industry collaboration, led by Prof. Zena Moore and Dr. Declan Patton, is particularly noteworthy given the challenges often associated in securing funding from industry for research in the field of nursing.

[Read more here](#)



Pressure ulcers are an increasing problem that affect thousands of people unnecessarily every year and It is estimated that it costs €250 million per annum to manage pressure ulcers across all care settings in Ireland.



RCSI Partner on Woundcare Applications Research

RCSI has entered a research collaboration with Advanced First Aid Research, a medical device company headquartered in Singapore, to develop next generation antimicrobial bioactive materials for woundcare applications. This collaboration, led by Prof. Fergal O'Brien, has secured in excess of €850,000 in funding from the company and Science Foundation Ireland. Supported by AMBER, an SFI Funded research Centre, the collaboration builds on Prof. O'Brien's expertise in the development of novel collagen-based therapeutic bioactive platforms for the delivery of antimicrobial agents, stem cells & growth factors to promote enhanced tissue repair.



Commercialisation Fund for 3rd Level Researchers

The Enterprise Ireland Commercialisation Fund programme funds the development of innovations to the point where they can be commercialised as new products, services and companies. Commercialisation Fund Project Support is available for projects that address a market gap or need and will ideally be ready for licensing to Irish industry or may form the basis of a new start-up in 2-5 years.

The current call for commercialisation fund project support applications in 2016 will close at 17.00hr on July 15th 2016. For further information contact aoife.gallagher@rcsi.ie

[Further information available here.](#)

Science Foundation Ireland Industry Fellowship Programme 2016

Science Foundation Ireland has launched the Industry Fellowship Programme 2016 to develop and support academic partnerships with industry. Researchers in third level institutions and non-profit research agencies and organisations in the Republic of Ireland are eligible to apply. Deadline: 13:00hr on the 6th July 2016. For further information contact seamusbrownne@rcsi.ie

[Further information available here.](#)



Translating Impact and Value from Research - Intellectual Property and Industry Engagement Strategies.

The Innovation office held its first half day training workshop on 23rd May in conjunction with RCSI Staff Learning and Development. The programme is aimed at post grads and post docs interested in research commercialisation and industry engagement. With high demand for this programme a

further workshop is planned for September and dates will be announced shortly.

[Read more here](#)

Innovation Quarterly Workshop - Industry Engagement and Research Commercialisation Opportunities with GSK.



The Innovation team presented its second quarterly workshop on Friday 24th June. Dr. Malcolm Skingle, Director of Academic Liaison Worldwide Business Development GSK gave an informative presentation on how GSK works with universities around the world, what it looks for in its academic partners and how RCSI researchers can engage with GSK.

[Read more here](#)

Our next quarterly workshop will be held in September and will focus on the SFI industry fellowship programme.



Pictured above (l-r) Prof. John Hyland (RCSI President), Dr. Sinead Keogh (Director of Irish Medical Device Association) and Minister for Health, Simon Harris TD.

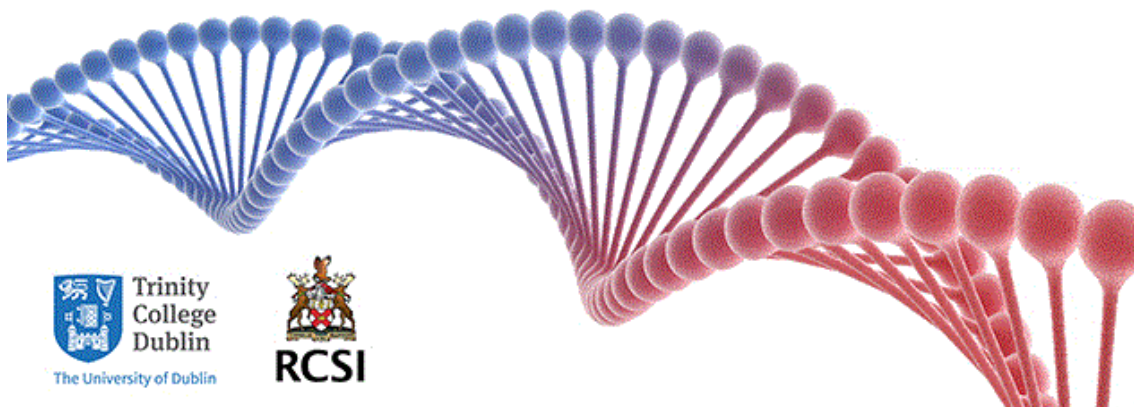
The Irish Medical Devices Association (IMDA) in partnership with RCSI hosted the main national European MedTech Week event for Ireland in the College.

Minister for Health, Simon Harris TD was the keynote speaker at the event which explored Industry-clinical collaboration for better patient outcomes. MedTech Week, which took place from 13th-17th June, brings companies and associations across Europe together to raise awareness about

medtech.

RCSI speakers at the event included Professor Richard Costello, Associate Professor of Medicine, RCSI and Consultant Respiratory/ General Physician at Beaumont Hospital; Professor Oscar Traynor, Consultant Surgeon and Director of the National Surgical Training Centre, RCSI and Dr Seamus Browne, Industry Liaison Manager, RCSI. Professor Ray Stallings, delivered the closing address at the event.

Read more on the [European Medtech Week](#) here



Biomedical and Life Sciences Innovation Showcase 17th May 2016

RCSI and Trinity held their first joint Biomedical and Lifesciences Innovation showcase on 17th May in the Science Gallery. This primarily industry facing event showcased RCSI research expertise and mechanisms of engagement to entrepreneurs and representatives from relevant companies.

RCSI and Trinity are consortium partners under Enterprise Ireland's Technology Transfer Strengthening Initiative Phase 2 (TTSI2), a programme which combines the efforts of both partners in presenting a cohesive opportunity for industry to engage with researchers, clinicians and resources in both institutions.

[Read more here including presentations from the event.](#)



Our recently expanded **Innovation Team** includes:

Aoife Gallagher - Head of Innovation

Seamus Browne - Industry Liaison Manager

Gordon Elliott - Case Manager as part of the RCSI/TCD knowledge transfer consortium.

John White - Assistant Research Officer

Michelle Kelly - Research Contracts Manager

[Contact the Innovation Team](#)

Researcher Information and Resources

Stay informed with the [Innovation Website](#) designed to help researchers commercialise their research and engage with industry. In addition new resources are available on the Staff Portal and the [Researcher Handbook](#) which provides further clarity on the supports available from the ORI as well as guidelines for industry engagement and commercialisation.

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[RCSI Innovation Website](#)

[Innovation Staff Portal](#)

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