



INNOVATION NEWS

ISSUE 5 WINTER 2016

RCSI DEVELOPING HEALTHCARE LEADERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WORLDWIDE

Welcome to the Winter issue of the RCSI Innovation Newsletter, which contains information on research commercialisation and industry engagement activity at RCSI, including news and events, recent researcher success and training and funding opportunities.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year from all the RCSI Innovation Team.



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[Prof. Mauro Adamo and Prof Zena Moore secure funding from IRC](#)

[RCSI celebrates SFI TIDA Pitch Off winners](#)

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RCSI Researchers Successful in Receiving Funding under the Enterprise Partnership Programme with the Irish Research Council (IRC)

Congratulations to Professor Mauro Adamo of the Department of Pharmaceutical & Medicinal Chemistry and Professor Zena Moore and Dr. Declan Patton of the School of Nursing & Midwifery

who were successful in receiving funding Research Council (IRC) Enterprise Partnership for two PhD students and one M.Sc student.



IRISH RESEARCH COUNCIL
An Chomhairle um Thaighde in Eirinn

under the Irish

programme for

Under the Enterprise Partnership Programme, the IRC in partnership with industry (in this case Kelada Pharmaceuticals, Fleming Medical and Nutricia) co-fund postgraduate scholarships and postdoctoral fellowships to the most promising researchers in Ireland.

The IRC Enterprise Partnership Programme is one of the IRC's longest running Enterprise programmes and is seen by companies, both SMEs, and MNCs, as a very attractive mechanism of engaging with



Irish academic institutions. Interestingly, the programme allows for the Industry Partner to be based anywhere in the world. Although not formally announced yet, the next deadline for the IRC Enterprise Partnership Programme is likely to be May 2017.



RCSI Winners - SFI Technology Innovation Development Award (TIDA) Pitch Off



Congratulations to Dr Siobhan Hogan and Dr Kate Connor winners of the Science Foundation Ireland Technology Innovation Development Award (TIDA) Pitch Off Presentations at the SFI summit in Croke Park.

Siobhan was the overall winner selected by the Judging panel comprised of Dr Helen Mc Breen (Investment Director,

Atlantic bridge), Dr Ibraheem Mahmood (President and CEO, Drugdev) Eoin Costello (CEO Scale Labs Ireland). Kate won the popular award voted for by members of the audience.

Helen McBreen, chair of the judging panel commented that it was a great day for RCSI and that she was very impressed by the RCSI presenters and their ability to communicate their research and answer the difficult questions put to them.

There was stiff competition for the award from TCD, DCU and UCD. The TIDA pitch off enables post-doctoral researchers funded on an SFI TIDA award who have attended the Entrepreneurship training programme to demonstrate the benefits of their technology and its route to market to a mixed audience with a view to gaining commercial feedback.

Siobhan's research is focussed on developing a novel coating for the prevention of catheter related infection with PI Eoghan O'Neil. Kate's project is for the development of Gliodispel: a smart Nano Gene therapy platform for the treatment of incurable brain cancers with PI Annette Byrne.



Pictured above left, Dr Siobhan Hogan and right Dr Kate Connor with Prof Mark Ferguson, Director General Science Foundation Ireland (SFI.)



Dr Dermot Cox Secures Funding from Japanese Pharma Daiichi Sankyo

Dr. Dermot Cox, Molecular and Cellular Therapeutics has recently secured translational research funding from Japanese pharmaceutical company Daiichi Sankyo over two years through their TaNeDS programme. Dr Cox's research focus is in the development of novel compounds for the treatment immune complex disorders and in the role of platelets in innate immunity.

Raising this all-cash investment from the company is an impressive achievement by Dr Cox and his research group.



Passion for Innovation. Compassion for Patients.®

**RCSI and TCD Win Five Year Funding under the Enterprise Ireland/Knowledge
Transfer Ireland Technology Transfer Strengthening Initiative**



Pictured above: (l-r) Sam Williams, Gordon Elliott, Prof Fergal O'Brien, Prof Ray Stallings, Michelle Kelly, Aoife Tierney, Graham McMullin, Mary Tracey, Aoife Gallagher; members of the RCSI/TCD TTSI Consortium at their December meeting.

In June 2015 RCSI entered into a consortium with TCD to work together to support knowledge transfer activities in their respective organisations. Funding for this consortium has recently been obtained for the next 5 years from Enterprise Ireland via [Knowledge Transfer Ireland \(KTI\)](#) under the Technology Transfer Strengthening Initiative (TTSI). Funding under TTSI is awarded to national consortia via a competitive process and is based on research income of institutes, targets achieved, and past performance in commercialisation and industry engagement.

The RCSI/TCD consortium has been successful in securing additional funding under TTSI phase 3, a five year programme to run from 2017-2021. Expected outcomes over the programme include an increase in industry engagement, higher value spin outs and an increase in commercial licenses to industry.



Commercialisation Fund Programme



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.

Proposals with costs typically ranging from €80,000 to €350,000 from all disciplines in the field of science and engineering will be accepted.

Submission Deadline: 5pm, Friday February 17th 2017

[Further information available here.](#)

RCSI Industry Seed Fund



RCSI

The RCSI Industry Partnership Seed Fund programme aims to nurture new research collaborations between RCSI researchers and industry partners. The fund's ultimate objectives are to stimulate industry collaborations that will grow into high value strategic research partnerships and provide an innovative and differentiated approach to engaging with industry to further develop and commercialise intellectual property developed by RCSI researchers in the medical device, diagnostic, therapeutic and healthcare delivery fields.

Applications to the RCSI Industry Seed Programme should follow the process outlined on the [Innovation Staff Portal](#). Researchers wishing to apply to the RCSI Industry Seed Fund Programme should contact [RCSI's Industry Liaison Manager](#) at the earliest possible opportunity to discuss their application.



Next Innovation Quarterly Workshop -

Building a next generation sequencing company from a start-up to a \$150M exit in 4 years

Date: Tuesday 13th December

Time: 12.50pm - 2pm (Light lunch available)

Location: VC Room, 123 St Stephen's Green

Speaker: Dr Kieran Curran, Chief Executive and Founder of GenCell.

In this workshop, Kieran will share insights from his journey as a PhD student to Founder and CEO of an Irish state-of-the art DNA sequencing technology company, GeneCell Bio. This workshop will be of interest to post-graduates students, post-doctoral researchers and faculty members interested in the research commercialisation, entrepreneurship and career pathways outside academia.

For information on this innovation workshop please see [Innovation news and events page](#).



RCSI Innovation Team :

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 Officer

[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](#)

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