



INNOVATION NEWS

ISSUE 6 SPRING 2017

RCSI DEVELOPING HEALTHCARE LEADERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WORLDWIDE

Welcome to the Spring edition of the quarterly RCSI Innovation Newsletter, which contains information on research commercialisation and industry engagement activity at RCSI, including news and events, recent researcher successes and training and funding opportunities. This edition highlights the 2016 innovation award winners, presented at RCSI research day. Congratulations to the award recipients.

Sections

[Innovation Awards 2016 - Winners](#)

[RCSI and Almac Discovery Enter Research Collaboration](#)

[RCSI's Approach to Industry Engagement Presented at National Health Expo 2017](#)

[KTI Impact Awards - Shortlisting](#)

[Innovation Quarterly Workshop](#)

[Funding Opportunities](#)

2016 Innovation Awards



The 2016 RCSI Innovation Awards were presented by Prof. Ray Stallings and Dr Aoife Gallagher at Research Day 2017, which was held on Thursday 9th March. The awards recognise the outstanding contribution of RCSI researchers to research commercialisation and industry engagement activity at RCSI. Congratulations to all the awardees.

Invention Disclosure Award Winners:

The invention disclosure awards recognise the role of non-PI inventors in the submission of invention disclosures; this years awardees were: Jane English, Siobhan Hogan, Garrett Greene, Hasim Ibrahim, Robert Murphy, David Walsh, Joanne Ramsey and Rachel Gaul.



Industry Engagement Award

This award recognises the researcher who was most successful in obtaining research funding from industry in 2016 and this year was presented to **Prof. Richard Costello**

Pictured L-R - Prof. Raymond Stallings, Prof. Richard Costello and Dr. Aoife Gallagher



Clinician Award

This award recognises the clinically qualified researcher most successful in research commercialisation and industry engagement and this year was presented to presented to **Prof. Zena Moore**.

Pictured L-R - Prof. Raymond Stallings, Prof. Zena Moore and Dr. Aoife Gallagher



Commercialisation Award

This award recognises the researcher whose research is licensed or optioned by a company for the highest value and this year was presented to **Prof. Celine Marmion**.

Pictured L-R - Prof. Raymond Stallings, Prof. Celine Marmion and Dr. Aoife Gallagher,

RCSI and Almac Discovery Enter Research Collaboration



Pictured (L-R) Dr. Graham Cotton, Senior R&D Group Leader, Almac Discovery; Prof. Tim Harrison, Vice President Discovery Chemistry, Almac Discovery; Prof. Tracy Robson, Head of Molecular & Cellular Therapeutics (MCT), RCSI; Dr. Gillian Moore, Postdoctoral Researcher, MCT, RCSI; Dr Seamus Browne, Head of Industry Partnerships, RCSI; and Dr. Stephanie Annett, Postdoctoral Researcher, MCT, RCSI

Almac Discovery, a research driven oncology company dedicated to the discovery and development of novel and innovative approaches to the treatment of cancer and RCSI have entered a major company funded research collaboration. This collaboration, led by Prof. Tracy Robson, Head of Molecular & Cellular Therapeutics, aims to gain a new understanding of how to target tumour cells that are resistant to cancer therapies and cause cancer to spread to other parts of the body. The research programme will focus on cancer stem cells. These cancer stem cells are resistant to both radiotherapy or chemotherapy and can facilitate the spread of cancer around the body. The research will investigate how a novel protein, called FKBPL and its associated peptide fragment ALM201, can be used to transform cancer stem cells into more 'normal' tumour cells. These cells can then be more easily killed by chemotherapy and radiotherapy, therefore reducing the risk of cancer reoccurrence in the patient. Professor Tracy Robson previously led a research programme that led to the identification of ALM201, an anti-cancer peptide drug based on the protein FKBPL. ALM201 is currently undergoing a Phase I dose escalation trial for patients with solid tumours.





RCSI's approach to Industry Engagement Presented at National Health Expo 2017

As part of RCSI industry engagement outreach activities, Dr. Seamus Browne, RCSI's Head of Industry Partnerships presented RCSI's research expertise and approach to industry engagement at the National Health Expo in February this year. The National Health Expo has a singular focus — To bring together regulatory officials, pharma and medical technology company senior executives, researchers, medical professionals and healthcare managers from Public and Private Hospitals, GP's, Dentists, mental to create an innovative, efficient and sustainable healthcare industry through knowledge sharing and collaboration. Seamus will also present at the International University-Industry Interaction Conference, the annual conference of the University Industry Innovation Network (UIIN), which brings together managers, practitioners and researchers in the field of entrepreneurial universities, collaborative innovation and university-industry interaction, in Dublin later this year.



Prof. Zena Moore, Dr. Declan Patton and Dr. Tom O'Connor of RCSI's School of Nursing & Midwifery have been short listed for the 2017 Knowledge Transfer Ireland Consultancy Impact Award for their work with US Medical Device Company, Bruin Biometrics. This prestigious national award recognises and celebrates the leading Irish research groups that have provided a demonstrable economic and/or public benefit through to provision of consultancy advice to business or public sector organisations. Under Prof. Moore's leadership, this initial consultancy-based activity with Bruin has grown into a significant research collaboration focused on the early prevention of pressure ulcers. The winner of this award will be announced by the Minister of State for Training, Skills and Innovation at a ceremony held at the Royal Hospital Kilmainham later this month.





Innovation Quarterly Workshop

The science of drug discovery – translating novel biology to biotherapeutics

RCSI DEVELOPING HEALTHCARE LEADERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WORLDWIDE

Next Innovation Quarterly Workshop - Pfizer

The Science of Drug Discovery - translating novel biology to biotherapeutics

Date: Friday 31st March

Time: 13.00 - 14.30 (Light lunch available from 12.45pm)

Location: Robert Smith Room, 123 St Stephen's Green

Speaker: Dr. Orla Cunningham, Director Biomedicine Design, Pfizer Grange Castle

Additional speakers: Prof Jochen Prehn and Prof Leonie Young

In this workshop the follow points will be covered:

- Drug discovery remains a war of attrition and novel approaches are required to accelerate the process & change the paradigm
- The SFI-Pfizer Biotherapeutics Innovation Award Program provides a platform to support engagement between Pfizer and the Irish biomedical community
- The BioMedicine Design group at Grange Castle are uniquely placed to provide a truly collaborative partner for accelerated drug discovery
- RCSI collaborators in the Pfizer biotherapeutics program Jochen Prehn and Leonie Young give their experience of collaborating with industry to develop novel therapeutics

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



SFI Technology Innovation Innovation Development Award (TIDA)



Details on this scheme are due to be launched at the end of March 2017. For information on last year's call please see [LINK](#)

IRC Enterprise Partnership Scheme



Details on this scheme are due to be launched at the end of March 2017. For information on last year's call please see [LINK](#)



Call for

proposals currently open

Deadline for completed applications: **31st May 2017**

Objectives:

- Nurture new research collaborations between RCSI researchers and industry partners.
- Stimulate industry collaborations that will grow into high value strategic research partnerships.
- Provide an innovative and differentiated approach to engaging with industry to further develop and commercialise RCSI intellectual property in the medical device, diagnostic, therapeutic and healthcare delivery fields.

For further information, please email seamusbrown@rcsi.ie



RCSI Innovation Team :

Aoife Gallagher - Head of Innovation

Seamus Browne - Head of Industry Partnerships

Cathy O'Byrne - 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.

Office of Research and Innovation

Second Floor

Ardilaun Block B

111 St Stephen's Green

Dublin 2

Tel: 01 402 2550

[RCSI Innovation Website](#)

[Innovation Staff Portal](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [unsubscribe from this list](#) here.



KTI
Knowledge Transfer Ireland
Where Research & Business Connect