



INNOVATION NEWS

ISSUE 8 – AUTUMN 2017

RCSI DEVELOPING HEALTHCARE LEADERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WORLDWIDE

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the quarterly RCSI Innovation Newsletter, which contains information on the launch of the New RCSI Intellectual Property and Conflict of Interest Policies along with research commercialisation and industry engagement activity at RCSI. It also includes upcoming news and events, recent researcher successes and training and funding opportunities.

Sections

[Launch of RCSI IP Policy and Conflict of Interest Policy](#)

[Nasal Medical Enters into Agreement for RCSI Sleep-Monitoring Technology](#)

[RCSI enters into License Agreement for Finnish Translation of 'Journey Through the Brain'](#)

[FutureNeuro Centre launched by An Taoiseach](#)

[RCSI & Inflection Biosciences Collaborate to Target Therapy Resistant Breast Cancer](#)

[EI Commercialisation Fund - Steve Kerrigan](#)

[Launch of RCSI Innovation Training Series](#)

[Innovation Quarterly Workshops](#)

[Funding Opportunities](#)

Launch of RCSI IP Policy and Conflict of Interest Policy



RCSI's CEO, Prof. Cathal Kelly recently launched the revised Intellectual Property Policy and new Conflict of Interest policy. Jointly these policies will help to ensure that RCSI is following international best practice and that we provide clarity on responsibilities of and entitlements to RCSI staff. RCSI recognises the importance of delivering and disseminating impactful research. The revised Intellectual Policy sets out the policy, regulations and practice for management of intellectual property at RCSI. It also details the benefits accruing to, and responsibilities of, researchers under this policy. This document supersedes the original *RCSI Intellectual Property and Inventions Policy 2003* and minor updates thereto in 2008.

The purpose of the Conflict of Interest policy is to provide guidance to staff and managers on how to deal with potential or actual conflicts of interest. It is not expected that there will be an increase in instances of conflicts occurring but, should they arise, the policy sets out a clear, structured governance process to underpin how you should manage any potential, actual, or perceived conflicts of interest. To view both policies please see http://www.rcsi.ie/ip_management



Nasal Medical Enters into Agreement for RCSI Sleep-Monitoring Technology

Congratulations to Professor Kevin McGuigan (Department of Physiology and Medical Physics) and Dr Peter Knief whose 'ApnApp' sleep-monitoring technology has been the subject of an evaluation and option agreement with Nasal Medical Ltd. Developed with the support of an SFI Technology Innovation and Development Award (TIDA), 'ApnApp' is a novel algorithm which analyses acoustic signals recorded during sleep monitoring to diagnose and assess respiratory health disorders such as snoring and sleep apnoea. The technology is designed to be used on mobile and tablet devices and allows for at-home screening by the patient thus avoiding the necessity of an overnight stay at a sleep clinic. Nasal Medical is an award-winning Irish start-up company founded by Martin O'Connell and Keith Yeager and based in the Guinness Enterprise Centre, Dublin. Winners of the AIB Start Up Academy 2016 and The InterTrade Ireland Regional Award 2016, Nasal Medical is focused on delivering novel, drug-free solutions in the field of respiratory health. As part of the evaluation and option agreement, the company will be working in collaboration with RCSI to evaluate 'ApnApp' as part of the clinical assessment of a new anti-snoring device.



RCSI enters into License Agreement for Finnish Translation of '*Journey Through the Brain*'



Congratulations to Professor David Cotter (Department of Psychiatry) and co-authors Lorna Lopez, Eoin Kelleher, Helen Coughlan and Mary Cannon whose book '*Journey Through the Brain*' has been licensed to a Finnish publisher for the production of a Finnish translation. '*Journey Through the Brain: a colouring book*' is a young adult colouring book created by RCSI to introduce young people to the complex world of the human brain, how scientists perform neuroscience research, and how the findings relate to understanding mental illness. The first edition of the book was launched at RCSI by Minister Helen McEntee TD in October 2016 with the support of the

HRB. The Finnish translation will be produced by PROMETHEUS Kustannus Oy, a publisher based in Espoo, Finland specialising in the publication of translations and domestic literature. '*Journey Through the Brain*' narrates illustrations across the spectrum of neurobiology research from how the brain is structured and connected down to the intricate details of its components. It brings the world of mental health research alive to young adults by explaining how researchers use information contained in the brain to answer complex questions about mental health. The book aims to



PROMETHEUS kustannus Oy

encourage students to consider a career in science and promotes the importance of scientific

research in developing a world-class healthcare system. '*Journey Through the Brain*' is a beautiful book, of self-contained scientific integrity, that students can pick up, marvel at the intricacies of the brain, enjoy colouring in while opening their minds to scientific research. More details can be found at <http://www.rcsi.ie/brainjourney>

FutureNeuro Centre launched by An Taoiseach



On Thursday 7th September, An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, TD together with the Tánaiste and Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation, Frances Fitzgerald, TD, and the Minister for Training, Skills, Innovation, Research and

Development, John Halligan, TD formally launched the RCSI-led FutureNeuro SFI Research Centre. 700,000 people are living with a neurological condition in Ireland, with an associated health and societal cost greater than €3 billion each year. Led by RCSI, the FutureNeuro Centre brings together multidisciplinary expertise from hospitals, universities and industry partners across Ireland



to address the socio-economic burden caused by chronic and rare neurological diseases through improved diagnosis, monitoring and treatment. Building initially on world-leading pre-clinical and clinical research into epilepsy and motor neurone disease, the FutureNeuro Centre is a scalable platform that will expand quickly to focus on other chronic and rare neurological diseases. The Centre will

strengthen the ability of RCSI and its partner institutions to attract research funding from companies active in the multi-trillion euro global market for diagnostics, treatments and medtech for neurological diseases and support indigenous companies seeking to access this market. Congratulations to Prof. David Henshall and RCSI co-applicants Prof. Gianpiero Cavalleri, Prof. Jochen Prehn, Dr. Mary Fitzsimons and Professor Norman Delanty.

RCSI & Inflection Biosciences Collaborate to Target Therapy Resistant Breast Cancer



RCSI and Inflection Biosciences Ltd, a private company developing innovative therapeutics for cancer, have commenced an Enterprise Ireland supported research collaboration that aims to understand the mechanisms of resistance to major breast cancer therapies and examine the potential of Inflection Biosciences' dual mechanism PIM/PI3K inhibitors in these treatment resistance cancers. One in nine Irish women will get breast cancer at some point in their lives. Recent improvements in treatment and diagnosis mean that many more women now survive the disease. Sadly, current treatments have no effect in up to 20% of those afflicted and where treatment does work, many patients relapse as treatment resistance emerges. The research team at RCSI, led by Professor Bryan Hennessy, Consultant Medical Oncologist in Beaumont Hospital, Dublin, and Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda, Lecturer at Royal College of Surgeons in

Ireland (RCSI) is working to identify which kinds of breast cancer respond best to the Inflection Biosciences' molecules that target two breast cancer driving pathways, PIM kinase and PI3K. Early studies have now shown that breast cancer cells are highly sensitive to this combined attack. Commenting on the initial results generated, Dr Michael O'Neill, Director of Research and Development at Inflection Biosciences added *"Our dual acting molecules are able to hit cancer cells on the double by inhibiting PIM and PI3K signalling. This makes our compound more effective than*



compounds which attack either cancer pathway on its own. We are delighted to have Professor Hennessy and the team at RCSI involved in this important research and their expertise will be of great benefit as we continue to develop these important treatments."

EI Commercialisation Fund - Professor Steve Kerrigan



Congratulations to Prof. Steve Kerrigan who was successful in the last round of the Enterprise Ireland Commercialisation fund. The project entitled *"A novel method for treating sepsis early by targeting the vascular endothelium"* will involve pre clinical studies to investigate the efficacy of lead candidate Cilengitide for the treatment and prevention of sepsis. This technology is patent protected and was recently published under Publication No: WO2017/140862 by WIPO and in [the Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis](#) and in [Critical Care](#).

We look forward to working with Steve and his team to further the commercialisation of this promising research.

Launch of RCSI Innovation Training Series



The Office of Research and Innovation (ORI) with HR's Staff Learning and Development department are launching a new 6 part Innovation Training Series this October. This kicks off with the existing flagship course ***Translating Impact and Value from Research - Intellectual Property and Industry Engagement Strategies*** on 11th October 2017 followed by 5 new workshops.

RCSI

Courses will include topics below;

1. Translating value from your research - **11th October 2017** - [Event Page](#)
 2. How to complete an Invention Disclosure form - **1st November 2017**
 3. Searching the prior art for an invention - **4th December 2017**
 4. Performing market research for an invention - **25th January 2018**
 5. Protecting your research interest with appropriate agreements - **20th February 2018**
 6. Building successful industry collaboration - **8th March 2018**
-

For more information please see the outline document [Innovation Training Series](#)



Innovation Quarterly Workshop

Opposites Attract: Partnerships Between Academia and Industry

RCSI DEVELOPING HEALTHCARE LEADERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WORLDWIDE

The third Innovation Quarterly Workshop of 2017 was presented Simon Archibald Chief Scientist, Integra LifeSciences (Talk title: *Opposites Attract: Partnerships Between Academia and Industry*) and Prof Fergal O'Brien, Professor of Bioengineering & Regenerative Medicine, Department of Anatomy in RCSI, on the benefits of Industry-Academic collaboration. Fergal and Simon have collaborated since 2005 on a number of projects and shared insights into how to create strong and mutually valuable collaborations. This event took place at 13.00 on Tuesday 26th September in the VC Room in 123. St. Stephen's Green.

The next Quarterly Innovation Workshop will take place on Thursday 14th December in the VC room from 1-2.30pm. Lunch will be available from 12.45. **Jeremy Skillington**, VP Business Development at Inflazome Ltd, who has worked in a range of start-up companies including Opsona and Trimod and co-founded a cancer immunotherapy company will discuss his experiences of commercialising novel therapeutics. Jeremy has 14 years experience identifying, evaluating, leading due-diligence teams, licensing and developing compelling collaboration opportunities.

For upcoming events and innovation news please see the [RCSI website](#) and [Staff Portal](#)



1. SFI Industry Fellowship Programme 2017



Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) is pleased to launch the Industry Fellowship Programme 2017 to develop and support academic partnerships with industry. Fellowships can be awarded to academic researchers wishing to spend time in industry, and to industry employees wishing to spend time in an eligible Irish academic or research institution. The eligibility criteria have been revised for this year, please read the call document. Fellowships can be for between 1 and 12 months in duration if full time or for between 2 and 24 months if part time. The maximum Industry Fellowship award amount is €100,000 direct costs.

Key Dates

The 2017 Industry Fellowship Programme will have two deadlines.

First Deadline: Has passed.

Second Deadline: 13:00 h (local time Dublin, Ireland) on the **23rd November 2017**

For general queries, including eligibility queries, applicants are advised to contact the Research Office of the Research Body they intend to submit their application through. For additional information or clarification, contact: industry.fellowship@sfi.ie

2. EU Prize for Women Innovators



The European Commission has launched the fifth edition of the EU Prize for Women Innovators to award women entrepreneurs who have achieved outstanding innovations and brought them to market.

Four cash prizes will be awarded to the most innovative women entrepreneurs:

- First Prize: €100 000
- Second Prize: €50 000
- Third Prize: €30 000
- Rising Innovator: €20 000

Call close date - Apply by 15 November 2017

For more information on eligibility, funding amounts and how to apply, please see [LINK](#).



RCSI Innovation Team

Aoife Gallagher - Head of Innovation

Seamus Browne - Head of Industry Partnerships

Derek John - Technology Transfer Case Manager

Michelle Kelly - Research Contracts Officer

Cathy O'Byrne - Assistant Research 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