Recent trends in technology transfer in Ireland

Alison Campbell OBE PhD RTTP
Director, Knowledge Transfer Ireland
Global IP Strategy Forum, Tokyo, 27 January 2015
Knowledge transfer

CONSULTANCY

LICENSING

COLLABORATION

SPIN-OUT COMPANIES
The value of knowledge transfer
About KTI
A centralised function to support and strengthen knowledge transfer in Ireland

- KTI takes a national perspective
- One organisation ensures a system-wide approach for Ireland
Mission

To support business and the research base to maximise innovation from State-funded research by getting technology, ideas and expertise into the hands of business, swiftly and easily for the benefit of the public and the economy.
What we do

- Bring predictability into the system
- Help industry understand how why and when to access the research base
  - Technology, IP, expertise
- Provide practical resources
- Facilitate best practice
- Fund TT
- Monitor, Review, Report
- Support policy development
Innovation ecosystem – funding
Research funders
- SFI
- IRC
- HEA

Government agencies
- Enterprise Ireland
- IDA Ireland

Research organisations
- Universities
- Inst of Technology
- Specialist institutes

KTI
- Funding
- National guidelines
- Best practice
- Review & report

Industry
- SME
- MNC
- Start-up
## Support available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>FROM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proof of concept:</td>
<td>Enterprise Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Feasibility</td>
<td>Enterprise Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercialisation grant</td>
<td>SFI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIDA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative research awards with industry:</td>
<td>Enterprise Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation Vouchers</td>
<td>Enterprise Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation Partnerships</td>
<td>Enterprise Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology Centres (R&amp;D)</td>
<td>IRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Partnerships</td>
<td>SFI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Centres</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry Fellowships – academia and industry</td>
<td>SFI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment based postgraduate programme</td>
<td>IRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TT infrastructure - TTSI</td>
<td>KTI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TTSI1
2007-12

- €30M to develop Ireland’s national technology transfer system
- 10 Technology Transfer Offices funded
- Funding for:
  - 32 new posts
  - operational costs

TTSI2
2013-16

- €22M funding for 8 TT consortia of universities and Institute of Technology across Ireland
- Objective – to scale
The impact from KT – driving business success

TTSI1 highlights
During the programme

- LOA increased 7 fold
- Spin-outs increased 450%
- Culture change
- Skilled profession developed
- State was able to measure activity
In 2013

**PRODUCTS ON THE MARKET**
31 technologies that had previously been licensed out by an RPO became available for consumer or commercial use.

**ACTIVE SPIN-OUTS**
There were 80 active spin-outs that were at least three years post-incorporation at the end of 2013.

**BUSINESSES ENGAGED**
There was a 15% increase over the previous year in the number of external clients with whom the TTOs worked.

**RESEARCH AGREEMENTS**
1,598 new agreements (collaborative, formal contract research and consultancy) were signed with companies, representing a 9% increase from 2012.

**PRIORITY PATENT APPLICATIONS**
123 applications were filed, an increase of 9% on the previous year.

**LICENSE/OPTIONS/ASSIGNMENTS**
There was a sharp increase in the number of LOAs signed, up 60% from the previous year, at 139.
Policy and guidance
The National IP Protocol

- Framework for industry to access public research
- Developed by industry, investors, technology transfer, government
- Mandated the creation of a central Technology Transfer Office – KTI
- Published 2012
- Review 2015
- KTI - guardian
Introduction

The KTI Practical Guides are designed to be suitable for transactions between Irish research performing organisations (RPOs) and commercial companies. The Model Agreements are offered as a starting point for drafting and discussion. The Guides explain common terms in the agreements and considerations that might apply. The Model Agreements are designed to be straightforward and easy to use. There is a commentary on drafting points accompanying each agreement. In addition to the annotated agreements in the Practical Guides, the Model Agreements are provided in a ‘clean’ form Word document, ready to download and use.

Disclaimer: Parties should take their own legal advice on the suitability of any model agreement for their individual circumstances and on associated legal and commercial issues. It may also be appropriate to seek the advice of tax or other experts. Neither Knowledge Transfer Ireland nor any of the individuals or organisations who have produced or commented on these documents assumes any legal responsibility or liability to any user of any of these model agreements or commentaries.
Knowledge Transfer Ireland

Knowledge Transfer Ireland takes a national perspective on the knowledge transfer (KT) system in Ireland. KTI works with business, investors, universities, Institutes of Technology, State research organisations, research funders and government agencies to maximise State funded technology, ideas and expertise getting into the hands of business to drive innovation.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT KT IN IRELAND

“I've been actively involved in commercialising technologies from number of Irish universities since 2008. We've built a company based on licensed technology which was developed in university laboratories and made available to us by the Technology Transfer Office. We are confident it will grow into a substantial business which would not have been possible if the college had not developed the core technology. We received a lot of support from the university Technology Transfer Office and have found it to be a rewarding experience on many levels.”

Alan Phelan, CEO/NucleusVP Group