



**QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**  
**Q2 2013**

Welcome to the latest edition of the information sharing newsletter from the National University of Ireland Maynooth Commercialisation Office. Our goal is to share relevant market news and activities on the commercialisation of NUI Maynooth research. We hope you enjoy this newsletter. For more information visit:

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**CONNECT**

**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

**CONNECT**, recently hosted by the Commercialisation Office at NUI Maynooth, is a biennial event with a two-fold purpose; (a) to showcase the research expertise and encourage industry to tap into the knowledge base of the University and its partner institutes and thereby develop research collaborations; and (b) to provide a networking opportunity for delegates to meet and explore how they can work together. This year NUI Maynooth and its technology transfer consortium partners, Athlone Institute of Technology, Institute of Technology Carlow and Waterford Institute of Technology showcased the diverse range of research expertise available to industry. The event was attended by over 200 delegates from local SMEs to global MNCs who capitalised on the opportunity to network and discover the best way to tap into resources available.

NUI Maynooth continues to open its doors to the business community. Both nurturing and developing good business ideas are essential to Ireland's economic recovery. R&D can be an expensive and difficult process which many businesses struggle to pay for. Working in partnership with NUI Maynooth and the consortium partners can overcome these barriers.



Photo: Delegates enjoying CONNECT at Carton House Hotel on April 10th, 2013

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In a recent interview with the Irish Times, John Scanlan put forward the following points:

"The commercialisation of research and the collaboration between business and academia has never been stronger in Ireland and these partnerships have the potential to create significant employment. The economic downturn has led to an increase in people setting up their own companies with a renewed focus on innovation. We are now witnessing the real impact of research on industry, through the formation of more spin-out companies from universities and the direct transfer of expertise and knowledge from educational institutions to established companies" said Dr Scanlan.

"Research teams often want a practical way to apply their work through the industry setting, and businesses want to focus more on research and development but don't have the finances or resources. Therefore the link between research and business is a natural fit and Ireland can reap the rewards in terms of job creation, exports and innovation."

## STUDENT ENTREPRENEUR COMPETITION

## NUI MAYNOOTH UPDATE

Congratulations to the finalists of this years' Student Entrepreneur Competition. Before announcing the winners the judges commended the competitors on the quality of their presentations and strength of their company ideas on one hand while grilling them on their marketing strategies and financial plans on the other. The competition is sponsored by McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors and Bank of Ireland Maynooth with additional supports provided by FRKelly and Carton House Hotel. The judges pose questions to find out how well each participant understands the potential of their own challenge and business idea. The prize money offered is to invest into the business to take it to the next level of development. Mentoring support is also offered by the experienced judges to help the businesses move forward into the market place. Below are the Student Entrepreneur Competition prize winners and the four Judges who offer both mentoring supports and sponsor the 10,000 euro prize fund.

Photo (left to right): Owen Lavery, Commercialisation Office, competition facilitator; Conor Boyce Patent Attorney, FRKelly; Kenny Morgan, Bank of Ireland Maynooth; Caraíosa Cleary and Rebecca Murphy (Spirito Voci - 2nd place); Ricky Jacob (Odikyo - joint 3rd place); Niamh Parker (SWOT - joint 3rd place); Simon Kenny and Patrick McGlynn (OSCAR - 1st place); Solicitor Paul Lavery of McCann Fitzgerald; and Conor Mallaghan (Carton House Hotel).



## COMMERCIALISATION AWARD

## NUI MAYNOOTH UPDATE



Photo: Professor John Ringwood (right), recipient of the 2012 Annual Commercialisation Award with Professor Bernard Mahon, Vice President for Research.

Professor John Ringwood was recently presented with the 2012 Commercialisation Award. John has been very active in the commercialisation space over the last number of years and has successfully licenced several technologies to industry. John currently leads the Center for Ocean Energy Research and is a Professor in the Department of Electronic Engineering.

The annual Commercialisation Award recognises excellence in the commercialisation of research at NUI Maynooth. We consider activity such as licence deals, spin-outs and linking with industry key factors in bringing research to the market place.