



# CONNECT + INNOVATE

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER Q3 2015

Welcome to the latest edition of the information sharing newsletter from the Maynooth University Commercialisation Office. Our goal is to share relevant market news and activities on the commercialisation of Maynooth University research. We hope you enjoy this newsletter. For more information visit: [maynoothuniversity.ie/commercialisation](http://maynoothuniversity.ie/commercialisation)

### INDUSTRY COLLABORATION HORIZON 2020

### KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER UPDATE

One of the world's leading experts on wave energy [Professor John Ringwood](#) from the Centre for Ocean Energy Research at Maynooth University has been awarded EU Horizon 2020 funding to collaborate with Scottish company, Aquamarine Power, in the development of commercial wave energy technology.



The team has been awarded €800,000 to improve the performance of Aquamarine Power's Oyster wave energy converter. Maynooth University's role in the project is to develop computer automated systems which maximise the power capture of the Oyster device. Wave energy converters should be operational for 20 years and the research will analyse the optimum shape and maintenance interventions to maximise the economic performance of the system.

With a sea area 10 times greater than its landmass, Ireland has an abundant marine renewable energy resource. A study of European wave energy has indicated that the average wave power in Europe is highest near the west of Ireland, with an average wave power of 76kW occurring off the Irish coast. This provides a significant opportunity for wave energy to feed into Ireland's target of 40% of electricity from renewable resources by 2020. [Read full article](#)

### MAYNOOTHWORKS CLINIC for TECH START-UPS

### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

MaynoothWorks, in conjunction with the Commercialisation Office, is running an open clinic for all early stage technology startups. The clinic venue is the MaynoothWorks Incubation Centre on Tuesday, 6th October, 2015, 4-8pm. Benefit from an hour long session with seasoned professionals in the technology startup space to help get your business off to the right start and, while you are here, take a tour of our new state-of-the-art incubation space.

### REGISTER for MaynoothWorks Clinic

For queries on incubation space please email [maynoothworks@nuim.ie](mailto:maynoothworks@nuim.ie) or call (01) 7083367 / 7086902



Owen Laverty, MaynoothWorks Manager

We recently welcomed Karen Griffin who joins our team as a Commercialisation Executive. Karen will focus on identifying commercial funding opportunities, in addition to working on all aspects of technology transfer from invention disclosure through to company spin-off at Maynooth University. Karen will also provide knowledge transfer support to consortium partner, Athlone Institute of Technology.

Karen obtained a Ph.D. from the UCD School of Medicine and subsequently went on to complete a Master's in Business with Smurfit School of Business. She has previously worked with The Centre for BioNano Interactions (CBNI), where her responsibilities included managing all aspects of research grants, technology transfer and business development.

Karen has taken over the role from Owen Laverty who has moved on to manage the new state-of-the-art business incubation centre, MaynoothWorks.

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Karen Griffin, PhD

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**NATIONAL PATENT PROCUREMENT AWARD****INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY UPDATE**

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Most of the Irish academic institutions in Ireland came together in a national procurement tender process to align the provision of patent services across Irish institutions. The successful completion of this process means we now have in place an efficient multi-supplier framework of 6 companies contracted to provide patent services across 5 defined technology fields/lots. The framework ensures that each academic institution works within State rules when procuring patent services. The concept of a national patent framework arose to ensure compliance with the auditing standards of our national funding agencies.

The criteria for the patent procurement tender were developed by a working group with representatives from each of the national technology transfer consortia. The tender went to the [Official Journal of the European Union \(OJEU\)](#). This is the publication in which all tenders from the public sector which are valued above a certain financial threshold according to EU legislation, must be published. Service providers were asked to demonstrate satisfactory quality assurance mechanisms and accreditation status, staffing resources, evidence of insurance and relevant experience, among other things. The annual spend on patent procurement nationally is approximately €3m. The companies awarded the five year contract across the 5 lots are, Appleyard Lees European Patent & Trademark Attorneys; Barker Brettell; FR Kelly European Patent & Trademark Attorneys; Purdy Lucy Intellectual Property; Murgitroyd European Patent & Trademark Attorneys; and Mewburn Ellis Intellectual Property.

The advantages of a national framework include (1) having a wide range of patent service providers with a broad range of experienced staff e.g. up to 150 PhD qualified IP patent agents (2) certainty of costs for each phase of patent filing (3) continuation of patent filing with a single agent without re-tendering at each stage (4) transparency of process for all stakeholders (5) assurance that HEI's are audit compliant when spending public funds.

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**CONNECT 2016 SAVE THE DATE****BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

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We will be hosting our biennial networking and showcasing event in 2016 and would love to see you there - we will have several keynote speakers on topical issues that matter to your business - more details to follow.

We hope you save the date in your calendar to join us at CONNECT on ....

**TUESDAY, 5TH APRIL, 2016**  
**8:30am-2pm**  
**CARTON HOUSE HOTEL, MAYNOOTH**

