



NovaUCD, UCD's Innovation and Technology Transfer Centre, aims to become an international leader in the commercialisation of research and other knowledge-intensive activity for the benefit of the economy and society.

IMAGE At the cutting edge  
by Matthew Cottrell

#### ABOUT NovaUCD

NovaUCD is responsible for the commercialisation of intellectual property (IP) arising from UCD research and for the development of partnerships with industry and business. NovaUCD's support for innovation and knowledge transfer is built around 4 key areas:

– **Promoting a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship**

An ethos of innovation, knowledge transfer and commercialisation is embedded within UCD's research community through a series of dedicated training courses and related events.

– **Managing technology transfer**

NovaUCD identifies, captures and commercialises the IP arising from UCD research programmes, whenever possible, for the benefit of enterprise development in Ireland. This includes licensing to commercial partners and creating spin-out companies.

– **Supporting start-up companies**

NovaUCD supports entrepreneurs and start-up companies from the early feasibility stage through to business development, growth and investment by providing support services, programmes and facilities. Examples of established UCD spin-out companies include:

- BiancaMed
- Celtic Catalysts
- Changing Worlds
- Equinome
- NTERA

#### Building partnerships

Bridging the gap between academic research and industry, and building relationships with industry is a key element of NovaUCD's commercialisation strategy.

#### SUCCESS

In the past five years, 50 high-tech and knowledge-intensive companies have occupied incubation space at NovaUCD and availed of NovaUCD's innovation services. Since 1996, 156 new ventures have completed NovaUCD's Campus Company Development Programme.

#### DURING THE PERIOD 2005-2009

- 13 new UCD spin-out companies were incorporated
- 247 inventions were disclosed
- 88 priority patent applications were filed
- 53 licence agreements were concluded with a range of indigenous and international companies

The total investment and realisation in UCD spin-out companies over the past decade now exceeds €150M. In December 2008 ChangingWorlds was acquired for €47M by Amdocs, the US-quoted technology company. Another notable technology transfer success is the development and licensing of a BSE test, which to date has generated over €2M in royalty income for UCD.