



CBNI is Ireland's National Platform for BioNanoInteraction science, and draws together specialists from universities, institutes and companies; the centre is a multi-disciplinary platform for nanotoxicology and nanomedicine.

IMAGE: Tasty beads  
by Juan Varela

#### ABOUT CBNI

Nanoscience has the potential to revolutionise and benefit many aspects of human society, especially in the fields of information technology and medicine. As one of the world's leading centres of knowledge for bionanointeractions, applied to the fields of nanosafety, nanobiology and nanomedicine, the CBNI is pioneering many of the new techniques and approaches in this area.

#### FUNDING

Working as a virtual centre since 2005, the CBNI was awarded funding from Cycle 4 of the Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions in October 2007, which marked the official start date of the centre. In addition to government funding, core funding for the centre comes from Irish Universities, the European Union and US sources.

#### KEY AREAS OF RESEARCH

- Interactions between nanoparticles and the living world
- NanoPhotonics, nanoelectronics & nanobioscience
- Environmental impact of nanoparticles
- Nanoparticles and neurodegenerative diseases

#### RESEARCHERS

Currently the centre has 4 Principal Investigators and 4 associated Principal Investigators as well as multiple collaborators across 8 Schools in UCD. The Centre is led by Professor Kenneth Dawson.

#### COLLABORATION

In 2008, CBNI was part of a winning bid awarded by the National Science Foundation and the US Environmental Protection Agency to establish two centres for the Environmental Implications of Nanotechnology, led by UCLA and Duke University. It is also a member of the Integrated NanoScience Platform for Ireland consortium (INSPIRE).