

Any revenues received by NovaUCD arising from the licence agreement will be shared with you in accordance with UCD's Intellectual Property Policy and Procedures. A summary of this Policy is available via www.ucd.ie/nova/technologytransferresearchers.

3. Supporting start-up companies

If the decision is made to commercialise the invention through the creation of a new company NovaUCD will assist you in the establishment and development of a start-up company. NovaUCD has a proven track record in supporting entrepreneurs and start-up companies from the early feasibility stage through to business development, growth and investment. NovaUCD provides entrepreneurs and knowledge-based start-up companies with access to incubation facilities and a comprehensive business support programme which includes advice, seminars, one-to-one consultancy, workshops and individual training.

NovaUCD also runs the Campus Company Development Programme. This enterprise support programme, which has run annually since 1996, is designed to assist academic entrepreneurs in the establishment and development of knowledge-intensive enterprises by providing the skills necessary to transform ideas into commercially feasible ventures and develop a business plan. Start-up companies also have access to the NovaUCD network of Venture Capitalists and other organisations supporting new ventures.

4. Building partnerships

Long term strategic partnerships are a key requirement for the development of collaborative research and opportunities for licensing and other forms of commercialisation. Bridging the gap between academic research and industry and building national and international relationships with industry and with the knowledge transfer network is an important element of NovaUCD's strategy.

NovaUCD Contact Details

NovaUCD
Belfield Innovation Park
University College Dublin
Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland
t: +353 1 716 3700
f: +353 1 716 3709
e: nova@ucd.ie
w: www.ucd.ie/nova

Key Contacts

Promoting a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship

Caroline Gill, t: +353 1 716 3715, e: caroline.gill@ucd.ie

Managing technology transfer

Dr Ciaran O'Beirne, t: +353 1 716 3713, e: ciaran.obeirne@ucd.ie

Supporting start-up companies

Dr Ciara Leonard, t: +353 1 716 3714, e: ciara.leonard@ucd.ie

Building partnerships

Micéal Whelan, t: +353 1 716 3712, e: miceal.whelan@ucd.ie

In addition to University College Dublin NovaUCD is sponsored by:



ARTHUR COX



NovaUCD is a trademark of University College Dublin.



NovaUCD



NovaUCD
Pocket Guide

NovaUCD

NovaUCD, the Innovation and Technology Transfer Centre, is the hub of knowledge transfer activities at University College Dublin. NovaUCD's vision is to become an international leader in the commercialisation of research and other knowledge-intensive activities for the benefit of the economy and society.

Building on prior successes in technology transfer and start-up company development, NovaUCD's support for innovation and knowledge transfer is built around 4 key areas:

1. Promoting a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship
2. Managing technology transfer
3. Supporting start-up companies
4. Building partnerships.



Overview of NovaUCD's innovation and technology transfer process



1. Promoting a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship

The development of a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship is critical for the successful identification and commercialisation of research generated intellectual property at UCD. By promoting awareness and embedding the ethos of innovation, knowledge transfer and commercialisation within the UCD community, NovaUCD is encouraging the seeds of valuable intellectual property which can be harnessed at a later stage for the benefit of all stakeholders. NovaUCD provides research skills modules for structured PhD Programmes and bespoke training courses for researchers, technology transfer professionals and industry.

2. Managing technology transfer

You've done all the hard work in applying for the research grant, spent countless hours doing the research and you may now have results that might be patentable and/or have commercial potential. So what do you next?

The first step is to complete the NovaUCD Invention Disclosure Form (IDF) which can be downloaded via:
www.ucd.ie/nova/technologytransferresearchers

The IDF should be fully completed and then submitted to NovaUCD. Once received by NovaUCD the process outlined below will commence.

A. Review and assessment of invention

The IDF will be reviewed by one of the Project Managers for Technology Transfer within 2-4 weeks of receipt by NovaUCD. A meeting will be scheduled with you to discuss the invention and to complete any gaps

in the information provided. Central to the discussions will be an assessment of the commercial potential and patentability of the invention. The commercial potential may be difficult to assess due to the fact that many inventions arising from academic research are at a very early stage of development. Your input will be sought on funding opportunities to further develop the technology and in identifying potential licensees.

B. Protecting the invention

The Project Manager shall complete his/her evaluation and then in consultation with other NovaUCD team members, and sometimes with the assistance of external experts, shall decide if the invention can be protected. If your invention is potentially patentable then NovaUCD will engage a patent agent to give an opinion and draft a patent application as appropriate. If the IDF is sufficiently detailed, this can form the basis of a first draft. However, the patent agent may request your assistance if additional information is required.

The patent specification will be shared with you to ensure that the invention is properly described and when agreed by you, the patent agent and NovaUCD, a priority patent application will be filed. NovaUCD will cover the costs associated with the patent application whenever possible. It should be recognised that NovaUCD files less than half of all inventions disclosed. If the invention is not patentable then it may be best protected through other methods or it may be at too early a stage of development and further research may be required. The rationale for any decision will be provided to you in writing.

C. Commercialisation strategy

NovaUCD will work closely with you to identify the optimal route for the commercialisation of your invention. The two main routes for commercialisation are licensing the invention to an existing company or

to a new company. Decisions regarding commercialisation will depend on a variety of factors including for instance, the maturity, breadth and depth of the technology or intellectual property (e.g. discrete or platform) and whether it is part of a portfolio of inventions. Also, factors such as the size, maturity and geographical distribution of the market and your own commitment and plans for involvement in the commercialisation process will also be taken into consideration. Once a commercialisation route has been agreed, NovaUCD will work with you to develop a plan for commercialisation and to lead in its implementation.

D. Marketing and licensing of the invention

If the decision is made to commercialise the invention via licensing to an existing company, the Project Manager will prepare a non-confidential summary of the invention in consultation with you. This summary will outline the key features of the invention and advantages over existing technologies. This will then be sent to potential licensees. Sometimes you may be able to identify companies which would be interested in the technology.

If a company expresses interest, the next step is to conclude a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) so that NovaUCD can share further confidential details relating to the invention to enable the company to more fully evaluate the opportunity. If the marketing efforts are successful, the ultimate goal is to license your invention either on a non-exclusive or exclusive basis to the company in its area of commercial interest. Negotiations can take several weeks to several months depending on the complexities and/or the due diligence required. In addition to the financial terms, e.g. upfront payments and royalty rates, other factors such as the duration of the agreement, the territories to be covered by the licence agreement have to be agreed. Your input may also be required if associated know-how is also to be licensed.

COMMERCIALISATION PROCESS

