The IRISH LIFE SCIENCES Research Guide

This guide is a collation of Life Sciences research capability within Ireland’s third level institutions. It will enable you to identify and engage with research experts relevant to your needs.
This guide is categorised into sections based on six key technology areas. Listed are facilities that are active in these technology areas. The names of researchers and a single point of contact for accessing their expertise in each research institution is included.
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The research landscape in Ireland has been transformed over the last decade. Through continued investment, we have seen research expenditure levels in the country more than double in the last decade. The increased levels of investment in research have helped attract leading researchers to our Universities, enabled the training of highly skilled graduates and installed the world-class facilities required for cutting edge research.

The return on this investment can be seen in a number of areas. The numbers of skilled graduates emerging from our universities is increasing steadily in line with the Government objective to double PhD graduate numbers by 2013. Both the number and quality of publications by Irish research groups has increased in the last decade. Output of scientific journal articles has more than doubled and, in parallel, Ireland’s citation ranking, a measure of quality, increasing from 34th to 19th globally. Following substantial investment by Enterprise Ireland through the Technology Transfer Strengthening Initiative, there are now skilled teams of technology transfer professionals in place throughout the University system to facilitate access to new technologies and innovations. Through the work of these technology transfer offices the number of patents filed, licenses issued and spin-out companies founded on University research has grown steadily over the last number of years.

Enterprise Ireland provides a broad range of supports designed to facilitate industry engagement with University researchers. These include supports for experienced entrepreneurs to start new technology-based businesses based on University research. The Innovation Partnership programme provides funding to execute industry-defined research projects in partnership with University researchers. At the other end of the scale, the Competence Centre programme brings together groups of companies to identify and address shared technology challenges in partnership with University research teams. I would like to acknowledge the important contribution made by all of the third level institutions in providing information for this publication.

The objective of this Life Sciences Research Guide is to provide a snapshot of the enormous capability of the Life Sciences research community within Irish research Institutions. This guide provides information on how to identify and engage with the research expertise that is most relevant to your business. This research expertise can help you access new technology, improve the competitiveness of existing processes, or identify new opportunities. I encourage you to use this guide, and the supports available to you through Enterprise Ireland, to engage with the research community to help deliver the innovation objectives of your business.
State investment in research performing organisations is delivering tangible results that benefit both the economy and society by bringing new technologies to the marketplace. Since the Technology Transfer Strengthening Initiative was launched in April 2007, Enterprise Ireland has worked side by side with Irish Technology Transfer Offices in higher education institutions to develop a world-class system for transferring valuable intellectual property from research into industry. Numbers of spin outs, licences to industry, inventions and patents filed have all been increasing. For example, between 2007 and 2009 third level institutions have generated a pipeline of 22 early stage life sciences companies and have licensed over 100 technologies to the life sciences sector.

All of Ireland’s higher education institutions are engaged with this five year Technology Transfer Strengthening initiative. In addition to direct support to Irish Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) the Initiative which is funded and coordinated by Enterprise Ireland delivers other supports including customised training events to ensure the highest professional standards of technology transfer practice are adopted. Performance data is regularly collected and compared with information on international trends to set targets and continually track how Ireland measures up against other countries and regions.

A key element of the Irish technology transfer system is the link between the TTOs and Enterprise Ireland’s commercialisation specialists. These commercialisation specialists work closely with the TTOs to help find the best way to bring a technology to the marketplace. Operating at the interface between industry and research, Enterprise Ireland is uniquely placed to increase the levels, and relevance, of interaction between the two communities for the ultimate benefit of the Irish economy.
Ireland's Key State Agencies
The following Irish State Agencies work closely with the Life Sciences industry, ensuring that it continues to develop as a vibrant growth engine of the Irish economy.

Enterprise Ireland
Enterprise Ireland is the Irish Government agency responsible for the development and promotion of Irish enterprise. Enterprise Ireland’s mission is to accelerate the development of world-class Irish companies to achieve strong positions in global markets, resulting in increased national and regional prosperity.

Innovation, leadership and growth are the core themes of the Enterprise Ireland strategy, driven by the overarching principle that growth in global markets through the internationalisation of Irish companies is the key to wealth and employment creation in Ireland.

Enterprise Ireland’s priorities include driving innovation, stimulating the emergence and development of companies of global scale, consolidating existing growth in key sectors and markets, capitalising on emerging opportunities, and helping to realise sustained and balanced regional growth.

With 10 offices in Ireland and a network of over 30 international offices providing access to more than 60 countries around the world, Enterprise Ireland supports the internationalisation of Irish enterprises and helps international companies connect with and maintain profitable partnerships with businesses in Ireland.

www.enterprise-ireland.com
IDA Ireland

IDA Ireland is the Irish Government enterprise agency responsible for securing foreign direct investment for Ireland. IDA also works with existing client companies, aiding the expansion of their Irish operations and their ongoing evolution to increase their strategic importance to their parent corporations. IDA plays a leadership role in the development of interdisciplinary collaborations between academia, Government and enterprise.

Over 1,000 overseas companies have chosen Ireland as their European base and are engaged in a range of activities across sectors as diverse as Life Sciences, Information Communications Technology, Globally Traded Business Services and International Financial Services.

IDA works at securing High Value Manufacturing and Research, Development and Innovation projects including;
• Life Sciences encompassing pharmaceuticals and medical technologies
• Information Communications Technology
• Industrial Products & Services
• Clean Technology

For further information contact:
Tel: +353 (0) 1 603 4000
Email: idaireland@ida.ie
www.idaireland.com

Science Foundation Ireland

Science Foundation Ireland is investing in world-class academic researchers and research teams who are not only excellent in the research they perform, but who are innovative and most likely to generate new knowledge, leading edge technologies and competitive enterprise.

Ireland is an exciting place to carry out research in the areas of bioscience and bioengineering across a broad range of disciplines.

SFI has invested heavily in research of strategic importance to Ireland. SFI researchers collaborate with 300 companies, in particular the SFI Strategic Research Clusters (SRCs) and Centres for Science Engineering and Technology (CSETs) encourage collaboration with industry around strategic areas of research.

SFI Strategic Research Clusters (SRC’s) – Life Sciences:
• Solid State Pharmaceuticals Cluster (SSPC), University of Limerick
• The Network of Excellence in Functional Biomaterials (NFB), National University of Ireland, Galway
• The Glycoscience Research Cluster, National University of Ireland, Galway
• The Irish Drug Delivery Network , University College Dublin
• The BioNanoInteract Cluster, University College Dublin
• Molecular Therapeutics for Cancer, Dublin City University
• Reproductive Biology Research Cluster, University College Dublin
• Immunology Research Centre (IRC), Trinity College Dublin
• Advanced Biomimetics for Solar Energy Conversion, University College Dublin
• Irish Separation Science Cluster, Dublin City University
SFI Centres for Science, Engineering and Technology (CSETs) – Life Sciences:
• Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre (APC) at University College Cork
• Biomedical Diagnostics Institute (BDI), Dublin City University
• Regenerative Medicine Institute (REMEDII), National University of Ireland, Galway

For further information contact:
Science Foundation Ireland,
Wilton Park House,
Wilton Place,
Dublin 2
Tel: 353 1 607 3200;
Email: info@sfi.ie
www.sfi.ie

Higher Education Authority (HEA)

The Higher Education Authority is the statutory planning and development body for higher education and research in Ireland. The HEA has wide advisory powers throughout the whole of the third-level education sector. In addition it is the funding authority for the universities and a number of designated higher education institutions. The principal functions of the HEA include the further development of higher education maintaining a continuous review of the demand and need for higher education, assisting in the coordination of state investment in higher education and to prepare proposals for such investment and the allocation of funding among universities and institutions.

For further information see: www.hea.ie

Health Research Board (HRB)

The HRB’s mission is to improve people’s health, patient care and health service delivery by:
• leading and supporting excellent research by outstanding people within a coherent health research system;
• generating knowledge and promoting its application in policy and practice;
  and, in doing so, play a key role in health system innovation and economic development.

The HRB’s current strategy and objectives are set out in its Strategic Business Plan 2010-2014. The vision described in the 2007-2011 strategy is to ‘Enable a world-class health system in Ireland through excellence in research and to contribute actively to the knowledge economy’.

For further information see: www.hrb.ie
Enterprise Ireland is committed to the goals of the Irish Government’s plan, Building Ireland’s Smart Economy, which aims to drive growth in the Irish economy through innovation, research and technology application. EI offers a wide range of supports and funding to companies that wish to engage in R&D –

**Innovation Partnerships - Companies & Colleges working together**

Through our Innovation Partnerships Initiative EI brings together companies and third-level researchers to work on specific R&D projects.

The Innovation Partnership Initiative offers financial support to companies who engage in collaborative research projects with Irish universities and institutes of technology. Enterprise Ireland provides grants of up to 80% towards eligible costs of the research project. The proposal process and administration of the project is managed by the participating third level research institution.

An Innovation Partnership with a third level research institution can:
- Increase the development potential of your business
- Give your company access to hot technologies developed in the Irish third-level sector
- Provide a cost-effective approach to innovative product and process development


**Innovation Vouchers**

The Innovation Vouchers initiative boosts innovation in small companies by building links with higher education institutions that can complete research projects for companies.

If you own or manage a small limited company with a company registration number and you have a business opportunity or problem that you want to explore, you can apply for an Innovation Voucher worth €5,000.

The objective of the Innovation Voucher initiative is to build links between Ireland’s public knowledge providers and small businesses and create a cultural shift in the small business community’s approach to innovation. The Innovation Voucher allows you to concentrate on running your business while knowledge providers come up with a solution that could take your business to the next level.

For more information on Innovation Vouchers, visit – [www.innovationvouchers.ie](http://www.innovationvouchers.ie)

**International R&D collaboration - Seventh EU Framework Programme (FP7)**

FP7 is the short name for the Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development. This is the EU’s main instrument for funding research in Europe and it runs from 2007-2013.

The broad objectives of FP7 have been grouped into four categories: Cooperation, Ideas, People and Capacities. For each type of objective, there is a specific programme corresponding to the main areas of EU research policy. All specific programmes work together to promote and encourage the creation of European poles of (scientific) excellence.

For more information on the EU Framework Programme, visit – [www.fp7ireland.com/](http://www.fp7ireland.com/)
Industry-Led Research Programmes

Enterprise Ireland’s Industry-Led Research Programme supports medium-term ‘shared agenda’ research activity among companies who could not afford to fund such research on their own.

Projects generally take between nine months and two years to complete and the research is contracted out to a publicly-funded research institution with significant funding available from Enterprise Ireland.

For example, Enterprise Ireland is investing €2.3 million in the Biopharmaceutical Process Analytical Technology industry led research network which involves 15 companies. The aim of the programme is to deliver more efficient, reliable and cheaper processes for manufacturing biopharmaceutical medicines.

This brings the number of networks of manufacturing and internationally-traded services companies that have come together to identify a way to solve a shared technology problem or opportunity that a research project could solve to seven.


Competence Centres

Competence Centres are supported by Enterprise Ireland and IDA Ireland.

The Competence Centre Programme will carry out market-focused, strategic R&D for the benefit of industry and will be resourced by highly qualified researchers. Third-level research institutions will host a competence centre. Plus, as part of the arrangement, a technology leader with a background in managing R&D projects will be employed to spear-head the development of each centre.

Some 64 companies were involved in the planning for these competence centres, including multinationals such as Medtronic, Intel, Xilinx, Seagate, Analog Devices, De Puy and Bombardier Aerospace, and Irish companies such as Creganna, AER Ltd, ÉireComposites Teo, Proxy Biomedical, S3, Aerogen and Redmere. It is anticipated that a further 200 companies in Ireland will be directly associated with the competence centres.

An example related to Life sciences is the Competence Centre for Applied Nanotechnology (CCAN). CCAN is an industry-led research initiative involving some of the world’s leading companies such as multinationals Intel, Seagate, Medtronic and Analog Devices and Irish companies Aerogen, Audit Diagnostics, Creganna and Proxy Biomedical. The Competence Centre for Applied Nanotechnology was established by the companies coming together to define their common research interests, which will have a strategic impact on their business area in the coming years. The Centre will be co-hosted by CRANN and the Tyndall National Institute.

For more information on the Competence Centre Programme, visit – www.enterprise-ireland.com/CompetenceCentres

Applied Research Enhancement Centres for Enterprise Development

The Applied Research Enhancement (ARE) programme is supported by Enterprise Ireland (EI) and the National Development Plan. Since the EI ARE Programme commenced, 17 applied research centres of excellence in 11 Institutes of Technology have been funded. This seed funding provides for procurement of a dedicated core research team led by an industrial experienced Centre Manager, dedicated lab space and provision of specialised equipment.
The objectives of these centres are -

• To enable regional development by introducing innovative technological solutions through collaboration with industrial partners
• To develop the next generation technology platforms for the benefit of Irish based industry through a dedicated applied research strategy

The centres can be divided into three technology clusters

• ICT & Software
• Bio Life Sciences & Pharmaceutical
• Bio-Medical Devices & Materials

For more information on the Applied Research Enhancement Centres, visit –
http://www.enterprise-ireland.com/NR/rdonlyres/7A359367-67CF-4127-9892-91467F8F797C/0/ARECentresContactDetails022010.pdf
INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP:
MERRION PHARMACEUTICALS AND TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

Merrion Pharmaceuticals is a stock exchange (IEX) listed Irish company developing new oral medicines using patented technologies. Merrion is developing a portfolio of oral (tablet) forms of medicines that can currently only be administered by injection, both for itself and in collaboration with major pharmaceutical companies. One of Merrion’s technology areas is a portfolio of proprietary targeting technologies that have shown potential to facilitate oral delivery of vaccines.

Because the majority of Merrion’s in-house expertise is in Formulation and Analytical Chemistry, the challenge was to identify world class Immunology expertise to progress the programme. The obvious choice for collaboration on this project was Trinity College Dublin, ranked second in the World for Immunology. Merrion Pharmaceuticals approached Dr. Ed Lavelle with their intellectual property on M cell targeting agents. Dr. Lavelle’s Adjuvant Research Group had experience in the development of mucosal vaccines, thus his team was ideally suited to investigate the potential of the Merrion technology in the development of oral mucosal vaccines.

The project was rewarding for both Trinity and Merrion and has sparked the motivation and commitment to continue working on this innovative area. The collaboration successfully demonstrated that the UEA1 mimetic can enhance the effectiveness of mucosal vaccines, making oral vaccines one step nearer, new tools were created to test immune responses to novel mucosal vaccine formulations and a strong and productive working relationship between the Adjuvant Research Group and Merrion Pharmaceuticals developed during the project.
Case Study 2

INNOVATION PARTNERSHIP:
TELEFLEX MEDICAL AND NUI GALWAY’S NATIONAL CENTRE FOR LASER APPLICATIONS

Part of a global conglomerate, Teleflex Medical has been based in Anacotty, Limerick for 23 years, and employs 170 people there. The company supplies other original equipment manufacturers (OEM) with products ranging from orthopaedic products to cardiac catheters.

A standard cardiac catheter is injected into the body at high pressures, which at times can cause the catheter to whip out of the body. Teleflex Medical was determined to improve on this product and came up with the idea of drilling holes at the end of the catheter to enable the pressure to be released, thus improving the performance of the catheter. 640 holes, each only 50 microns in diameter had to be drilled in the last 5mm of the catheter. Drilling multiple holes into such a small space was extremely detailed work and would need to take place at a dedicated laboratory by laser specialists.

NUI Galway’s National Centre for Laser Applications (NCLA) emerged as the ideal partner for Teleflex Medical for this far-reaching project. NCLA’s expertise was invaluable when it came to the finer details of the process, and NCLA wrote the actual software that programmed the laser to drill the holes at the required speed - approximately five or six seconds per catheter, every time. Not only did the process need to be quick, the quality of each hole had to be optimised, particularly given the nature of the sector. Because the end product focused specifically on the health industry each hole had to be clean and flawless.

The outcome of the joint project was a positive one - the new catheter was launched in the US market by a company called Medrad. Since finishing up on the project NCLA has helped Teleflex Medical to transfer the drilling process to their Limerick premises so that they can now do the work themselves in their own facility.
Case Study 3

SPINOUT COMMERCIALISING RESEARCH

Professor John Lowry is bringing his decade-long work in sensor technology to the marketplace through a company called BlueBox Sensors. The company spun out from NUI Maynooth and was formally launched in the US on October 16, 2009, at the Society for Neuroscience in Chicago, the world’s largest neuroscience fair, attended by 32,000 delegates.

BlueBox Sensors produces implantable brain sensors that can record, in real time, changes in brain chemistry. It is particularly useful in the quest to develop drugs to treat diseases like Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s and Schizophrenia. The sensors will be used by pharmaceutical companies early in the new product development phase, to understand how new drugs are working and eliminate those that are not successful. This technology replaces current micro-dialysis processes which only give readings on analysis post-treatment and are therefore slower and less illuminating.

The company already counts major pharma players Eli Lilly, Solvay Pharmaceuticals and GSK amongst its clients. The company expects to create up to ten direct highly skilled jobs over the next three years with further employment opportunities for sub contractors.

Enterprise Ireland has supported the company with almost €1 million through the spin-out process, working closely with the Commercialisation Office at NUI Maynooth.

The sensors are produced in the labs on campus, when orders started to come in from industry contacts there was an inability to keep up with demand, so it was decided to spin out a company to manage production. It has huge potential in aiding the process to develop next generation treatments for neurodegenerative conditions. The earlier drugs that work can be identified or and ones that don’t are ruled out, the cheaper and faster new treatments can come to market.

This spin out model plays to everyone’s strengths, it allows Professor Lowry to remain in the University carrying on Scientific Research and BlueBox Management team to look after the business.
Case Study 4

INDUSTRY LED RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

Irish research aimed at applying advanced process analytical technology (PAT) to the manufacture of biologically derived drugs could have benefits for big pharma worldwide as drug companies, globally, are facing a problem at the manufacturing coal-face.

Traditionally, pharmaceuticals have tended to be small, relatively simple molecules, synthesised through chemical processes. Since the sequencing of the human genome and other rapid biotech developments, however, new biologically derived drug entities - or biologics - are taking an increasing market share.

Currently 10 or 11 per cent of pharmaceuticals on sale are biologics and the discovery pipeline is growing all the time. This new generation of biologically-derived drugs is typically produced by genetically modified living cells in massive fermenters. The problem for industry is that at present it doesn’t have a clear understanding of, or full control over, these unwieldy processes.

To help the industry increase its know-how a research project focused on process analytical technology (PAT) for bio-manufacturing is being co-ordinated by Enterprise Ireland, with funding of €2.3 million over three years, and it brings together a diverse range of players.

Irish-based multinationals - Centocor, Genzyme, Pfizer, Schering Plough, Eli Lilly and Elan - are participating, along with UCD, DCU, the National Institute of Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT) and the Tyndall National Institute at UCD. The project also involves seven mainly small Irish companies, which sell technology and services to the industry. And the engineering partner is the global power and automation systems provider ABB. All participants are bringing something to the table and are set to get something out.

Increased process understanding gives all kinds of advantages: it gives better predictability; it allows control of the process by feedback loops; it facilitates more rapid technology transfer to other sites. The end-game is real-time release of product, which would give you a very significant cycle-time reduction.

The challenges for the research team will include developing probes that can extract samples without compromising the production system; developing a process model that pinpoints the critical process parameters actually impacting on product quality, consistency and yield; and identifying suitable analytical techniques, such as mass spectroscopy, surface plasma resonance or fluorescence activated cell sorting to monitor these parameters.

The industry’s involvement provides a vital reality check, in terms of highlighting where the real problems are and helping to avoid re-inventing the wheel.
POINT OF CONTACT LIST
UCD

CONTACT: Ciaran O'Beirne
TT Manager, NovaUCD, University College Dublin, Belfield Innovation Park, Belfield, Dublin 4
EMAIL: ciaran.obeirne@ucd.ie
TEL: 01 716 3713

DCU

CONTACT: Richard Stokes
Chief Executive Officer, Invent DCU, Dublin City University, Glasnevin, Dublin 9
EMAIL: richard.stokes@invent.dcu.ie
TEL: 01 700 6188

UCC

CONTACT: Brendan T. Cremen
Director of Technology Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer, University College Cork, Western Gateway Building, Cork
EMAIL: b.cremen@ucc.ie
TEL: 021 420 5881

NUIG

CONTACT: Fiona Neary
Business Development Manager, Technology Transfer Office, National University of Ireland, Galway, University Road, Galway
EMAIL: fiona.neary@nuigalway.ie
TEL: 091 492 400

NUIM

CONTACT: John Scanlan
Director of Commercialisation, Commercialisation Office, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Auxillia Building, North Campus, Maynooth, Co. Kildare
EMAIL: john.scanlan@nuim.ie
TEL: 01 708 6017
RCSI

CONTACT: Gearoid Tuohy
Associate Director of TTO, Technology Transfer Office
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
121 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2
EMAIL: gearoidtuohy@rcsi.ie
TEL: 01 402 2362

TCD

CONTACT: James Callaghan
Associate Director of Trinity Research & Innovation
Room F48, Trinity Research & Innovation
Trinity College Dublin, O’Reilly Institute, Dublin 2
EMAIL: jcallag@tcd.ie
TEL: 01 896 1427

UL

CONTACT: Paul Dillon
Director, Technology Transfer Office
University of Limerick, Foundation Building
Limerick
EMAIL: paul.dillon@ul.ie
TEL: 061 202 611

Athlone IT

CONTACT: Breda Lynch
Industry Programmes Manager
Office of Research, Athlone Institute of Technology
Co. Westmeath
EMAIL: blynch@ait.ie
TEL: 090 648 3041

IT Blanchardstown

CONTACT: Assumpta Harvey
Industrial Liaison Manager, Learning and Innovation Centre, Institute of Technology Blanchardstown
Blanchardstown Road North, Dublin 15
EMAIL: assumpta.harvey@itb.ie
TEL: 01 885 1186
IT Carlow

CONTACT: Brian Ogilvie
Enterprise Development Officer, Enterprise & Research
Incubation Campus, Institute of Technology Carlow
Kilkenny Road, Carlow
EMAIL: brian.ogilvie@itcarlow.ie
TEL: 059 917 5223

Cork IT

CONTACT: Ronan Coleman
Commercialisation Specialist, Industrial Liaison Office
Cork Institute of Technology, Bishoptown Campus
Cork
EMAIL: ronan.coleman.cit.ie
TEL: 021 432 6017

Dublin IT

CONTACT: Tom Flanagan
CEO Hothouse, Hothouse, Dublin Institute of Technology
Aungier Street, Dublin 2
EMAIL: tom.flanagan@dit.ie
TEL: 01 402 7028

Limerick IT

CONTACT: Siobhan Moane
Head of Research & Technology Transfer
Limerick Institute of Technology, Moylish Park
Limerick
EMAIL: siobhan.moane@lit.ie
TEL: 061 208 458

IT Tallaght

CONTACT: Pat O’Donnell,
Industrial Liaison Manager,
Institute of Technology Tallaght, (ITT Dublin)
Tallaght, Dublin 24
EMAIL: Patrick.ODonnell@ittdublin.ie
TEL: 01 404 2864
CONTACT:  Tim McCormac  
Head of Research, Research Office, Dundalk Institute of Technology, Dublin Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth  
EMAIL:  tim.mccormac@dkit.ie  
TEL:  042 937 0459

Galway-Mayo IT  
TEL: 091 742 2824

CONTACT:  John Kennedy  
Commercial Services Manager, Innovation in Business Centre, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology  
Westport Road, Castlebar, Co Mayo  
EMAIL:  john.kennedy@gmit.ie  
TEL:  091 742 2824

Letterkenny IT  
TEL: 074 918 6062

CONTACT:  Padraig Gallagher  
Industrial Services Manager, Industrial Liaison Office  
Letterkenny Institute of Technology, Port Road  
Letterkenny, Co. Donegal  
EMAIL:  padraig.gallagher@lyit.ie  
TEL:  074 918 6062

IT Sligo  
TEL: 071 915 5385

CONTACT:  Niall McEvoy  
Head of Technology Transfer & Innovation  
Institute of Technology Sligo, Ballinode, Sligo  
EMAIL:  Mcevoy.niall@itsligo.ie  
TEL:  071 915 5385

Waterford IT  
TEL: 051 302 034

CONTACT:  Kathryn Kiely  
Industry Services Manager  
Industry Services & Technology Transfer office  
Waterford Institute of Technology, Room 2.10, Walton IT Building, WIT Cork Road Campus, Waterford  
EMAIL:  kkiely@wit.ie  
TEL:  051 302 034
CONTACT: Jerry Clifford  
Head of Development  
Institute of Technology Tralee,  
Tralee,  
Co. Kerry  
EMAIL: jerry.clifford@staff.ittralee.ie  
TEL: 066 714 5637

Teagasc  
TEL: 059 917 0200

CONTACT: Frank O'Mara  
Director of Research  
Teagasc, Oak Park, Carlow  
EMAIL: frank.omara@teagasc.ie  
TEL: 059 917 0200
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## CLINICAL RESEARCH (INCL.TRIALS) & IT FOR HEALTH
### Pre-Clinical Imaging

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| Contact: Fiona Neary  
T: 091 492 400  
Chris Dainty  
Andrew O’Brien | Contact: Ciaran O’Beirne  
01 710 3713  
Kathleen Curran  
David FitzPatrick  
William Gallagher  
Suzi Jarvis  
Desirée O’Leary  
Gareth Redmond  
James Rice  
Dimitri Scholz  
John Sheridan  
Brian Vohnsen  
Dominic Zerulla | Contact: Brendan T. Cremen  
021 420 5881  
Noel Caplice  
Colin Hill  
Mark Tangney | Contact: Richard Stokes  
01 7006 188  
Oliver Dolly  
Robert Forster  
Tia Keyes  
Colette McDonagh  
Derek Molloy  
Ronan Murphy  
Richard O’Kennedy  
Robert Sadleir  
Paul Whelan | IT Tralee  
Contact: Jerry Clifford  
066 714 5637  
Brendan Guilfoyle  
Cork IT  
Contact: Ronan Coleman  
021 432 6017  
Jim O’Mahony  
Dublin IT  
Contact: Tom Flanagan  
01 402 7028  
Jacinta Byrne  
Hugh J. Byrne  
Fiona Lyng  
IT Sligo  
Contact: Niall McEvoy  
071 915 5385  
James Murphy |

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| Contact: John Scanlan  
01 708 6017  
Brian Hennelly  
Lowry  
Tom Naughton  
Tomas Ward  
Peter Wellstead | | |

## CLINICAL RESEARCH (INCL.TRIALS) & IT FOR HEALTH
### Medical & Pre-Clinical Models

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T: 091 492 400  
Frank Barry  
Rhodri Ceredig  
Elis Dowd  
David Finn  
Yolanda Garcia  
Lokesh Joshi  
Noel Lowndes  
Karl McCullagh  
Brian McGuire  
Siobhan McMahon  
Mary Murphy  
Timothy O’Brien  
Stephen Rea  
Thomas Ritter  
Afshin Samali | Contact: James Callaghan  
01 896 1427  
Padraic Fallon  
Marina Lynch  
Bruce Murphy | Contact: John Scanlan  
01 708 6017  
Marion Butler  
Sean Doyle  
John Findlay  
Frances Heaney  
Wilhelm Huisinga  
Gary Jones  
Kevin Kavanagh  
Gemina Kinsella  
John Lowry  
Bernard Mahon  
Jennifer McManus  
Sinead Miggin  
Paul Moynagh  
Shirley O’Dea  
Kay Ohlendieck  
Martina Schroeder | Contact: Gearoid Tuohy  
01 402 2382  
David Henshall  
Fergal O’Brien  
Colm O’Tuathaigh  
Jochen Frehn | Cork IT  
Contact: Ronan Coleman  
021 432 6017  
Aidan Coffey  
Galway Mayo IT  
Contact: John Kennedy  
091 742 2824  
John Kelly |

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| Contact: Paul Dillon  
061 202 611  
Susan Coote  
Des Leddin  
William O’Connor  
Clodagh O’Gorman | Contact: Richard Stokes  
01 7006 188  
Paul Cahill  
John Crown  
Phil Cummins  
Rosaleen Devery  
Oliver Dolly  
Harry Holthofer  
Patricia Johnson  
Ronan Murphy  
Mary O’Connell  
Norma O’Donovan | |
## CLINICAL RESEARCH (INCL.TRIALS) & IT FOR HEALTH

### Clinical Research & Development (continued)

**RCSI**
- **Contact:** Gearoid Tuohy
  - **Tel:** 01 402 2362
- Michael Berndt
- Ruairi Brugha
- Mary Cannon
- Gianpiero Cavallero
- Richard Costello
- Sally-Ann Cryan
- Jacqueline Daly
- Tobias Engel
- Tom Fahey
- Helen French
- Michael Geary
- Helen French
- Tom Fahey
- Michael Geary
- Michael Geary

**ITs**
- **Athlone IT**
  - **Contact:** Breda Lynch
  - **Tel:** 090 648 3041
  - **Contact:** Donal Eardy

**Dundalk IT**
- **Contact:** Tim McCormac
  - **Tel:** 042 937 0459
  - **Contact:** Ronan Bree
  - **Contact:** Mark Hollywood

**Galway Mayo IT**
- **Contact:** John Kennedy
  - **Tel:** 091 742 2824
  - **Contact:** Noel McHale

**IT Sligo**
- **Contact:** Niall McEvoy
  - **Tel:** 071 915 5385
  - **Contact:** Fiona McArdle

**Waterford IT**
- **Contact:** Kathryn Klei
  - **Tel:** 051 302 034
  - **Contact:** Stephen Beatty
  - **Contact:** John McCaffery
  - **Contact:** Peter McLoughlin

**Nat Rehab Hospital**
- **Contact:** Michelle Verdonck
  - **Contact:** St Lukes Hospital
    - **Contact:** Pierre Thirion
  - **Contact:** Waterford Regional
    - **Contact:** Paula Calvert
    - **Contact:** James Ryan
  - **Contact:** Mid West Cancer
    - **Contact:** Rajnish Gupta

---

**NUIG**
- **Contact:** Fiona Neary
  - **Tel:** 091 492 400
  - **Contact:** Des Chambers
  - **Contact:** Giovanni Ciccotti
  - **Contact:** Henry Curran
  - **Contact:** Martin Glinn
  - **Contact:** Aaron Golden
  - **Contact:** Cathal Gurrin
  - **Contact:** John Hinde
  - **Contact:** Neil Hurley
  - **Contact:** Thomas Kropmans
  - **Contact:** James Little
  - **Contact:** Gerry Lyons
  - **Contact:** Michael Madden
  - **Contact:** John Newell
  - **Contact:** Malini Olivo
  - **Contact:** Alan Ryder
  - **Contact:** Michael Schukat
  - **Contact:** Cathal Seoighe
  - **Contact:** Josep Van Genabith
  - **Contact:** Robert Woods

**UCD**
- **Contact:** Ciaran O’Brien
  - **Tel:** 01 718 3713
  - **Contact:** David Barton
  - **Contact:** Michela Bertolotto
  - **Contact:** Dolores Cahill
  - **Contact:** Brian Caulfield
  - **Contact:** David Coker
  - **Contact:** Padraig Cunningham
  - **Contact:** Kathleen Curran
  - **Contact:** Niall English
  - **Contact:** Sean Ennis
  - **Contact:** David Desmond
  - **Contact:** Boris Kholodenko
  - **Contact:** Walter Kolch
  - **Contact:** Alexey Lastovetsky
  - **Contact:** Vladimir Lobaskin
  - **Contact:** Brendan Loftus
  - **Contact:** Don MacElroy
  - **Contact:** Damien Mooney
  - **Contact:** Zoltan Neufeld

**NUIM**
- **Contact:** John Scanlan
  - **Tel:** 01 708 6017
  - **Contact:** David Fitzpatrick
  - **Contact:** Wilhelm Hussinga
  - **Contact:** James Mcinerney
  - **Contact:** Rick Middleton
  - **Contact:** Davide Pisani
  - **Contact:** Jan Rigby
  - **Contact:** Peter Wellstead

**Cork IT**
- **Contact:** Ronan Coleman
  - **Tel:** 021 432 6017
  - **Contact:** Roy Sleator

**Dublin IT**
- **Contact:** Tom Flanagan
  - **Tel:** 01 402 2362
  - **Contact:** Sarah Jane Delaney
  - **Contact:** Jesus Fries
  - **Contact:** Bill Grimson
  - **Contact:** Bing Wu

**Dundalk IT**
- **Contact:** Tim McCormac
  - **Tel:** 042 937 0459
  - **Contact:** Ronan Bree

**IT Taghgart**
- **Contact:** Pat O’Donnell
  - **Tel:** 01 404 2864
  - **Contact:** Eithne Dempsey

**IT Carlow**
- **Contact:** Brian Ogilvie
  - **Tel:** 059 917 5323
  - **Contact:** David Dowling
  - **Contact:** Patricia Mulcahy
  - **Contact:** David Ryan

**Waterford IT**
- **Contact:** Kathryn Klei
  - **Tel:** 051 302 034
  - **Contact:** John Nolan
  - **Contact:** Orla O’Donovan
  - **Contact:** Conor Ryan
  - **Contact:** Jim Stack

---

**Bioinformatics Biostatistics/Biomathematics/Data Management**

### NUI Galway IT
- **Contact:** Fiona Neary
  - **Tel:** 091 492 400

### University College Dublin IT
- **Contact:** Richard Stokes
  - **Tel:** 01 700 6188
  - **Contact:** Paul Cahill
  - **Contact:** Jean Clarke
  - **Contact:** Martin Clynes
  - **Contact:** Joy Conlon
  - **Contact:** John Crown
  - **Contact:** Phil Cummins

### Queen’s University Belfast IT
- **Contact:** Richard Tuohy
  - **Tel:** 028 9022 4000

### University College Cork IT
- **Contact:** John Scanlan
  - **Tel:** 01 708 6017

### Dublin City University IT
- **Contact:** Tim McCormac
  - **Tel:** 042 937 0459

---

**Galway IT**
- **Contact:** John Kennedy
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### In Vitro Diagnostics (IVD)

**NUIG**
- Contact: Fiona Neary  T: 091 492 400  
  - Thomas Barry  
  - Margaret Brennan Fournet  
  - Martin Cormicin  
  - Patrick Fournet  
  - Barry Glynn  
  - Helen Heneghan  
  - Marian Kerrin  
  - Deirdre Ledwith  
  - Nicola Miller  
  - Dearbhla Morris  
  - Louise O'Connor  
  - Terry Smith  
  - Muriel Voisin

- Contact: James Callaghan  T: 01 896 1427  
  - Arun Bokde  
  - Gerard Boyle  
  - Thomas Frola  

**UCD**
- Contact: Ciaran O'Bolroche  T: 01 718 3713  
  - Maurice Boland  
  - Dolores Cahill  
  - Sean Callanan  
  - Kathleen Curran  
  - Paul Engel  
  - Alexander Evans  
  - Helen Gallagher  
  - William Gallagher  
  - David MacHugh  
  - Grace Mulcahy  
  - Ciaran Regan  
  - Pauline Rudd  
  - John Ryan  
  - Michael Scott  
  - Brian Vohlsen

- Contact: Paul Dillon  T: 061 202 611  
  - Khalil Arshak  
  - John Cooke  
  - Niamh Cummins  
  - Gabriel Leen

**UL**
- Contact: John Scanlan  T: 01 708 6017  
  - Kevin Kavanagh

**NUIM**
- Contact: John Scanlan  T: 01 708 6017  
  - Kevin Kavanagh

**RCSI**
- Contact: Gearoid Tuohy  T: 01 402 2362  
  - Suzanne Hector  
  - Derek Murphy

**Cork IT**
- Contact: Ronan Coleman  T: 021 432 6017  
  - Jim O'Mahony

**Dublin IT**
- Contact: Tom Flanagan  T: 01 402 7028  
  - Hugh Byrne  
  - Fiona Lyng  
  - Barry Ryan

**IT Sligo**
- Contact: Pat O'Donnell  T: 01 404 2864  
  - Ethine Dempsey

**Athlone IT**
- Contact: Breda Lynch  T: 090 648 3041  
  - Salwa Barkwan  
  - Sinead Lordan  
  - Anne Mulvihill  
  - Paul Tomkins

**IT Tallaght**
- Contact: Pat O'Donnell  T: 01 404 2864  
  - Brendan Guildfoyle

### Imaging

**NUIG**
- Contact: Fiona Neary  T: 091 492 400  
  - Margaret Brennan Fournet  
  - Dara Cannon  
  - Peter Dockery  
  - Patrick Fournet  
  - Yolanda Garcia  
  - Michael O’Hagan  
  - Colin McDonald  
  - Siobhan McMahon  
  - Ciaran Morrison  
  - Andrew O’Brien  
  - Fabio Quondammatteo  
  - David Rajasekar

- Contact: James Callaghan  T: 01 896 1427  
  - Douwe Van Sinderen  
  - Paul Young

**UCD**
- Contact: Ciaran O’Ferlene  T: 01 718 3713  
  - Padraig Dunne  
  - Suzi Jarvis  
  - Fergal O’Reilly  
  - Gerry O’Sullivan  
  - Emmanuel Reynaud  
  - James Rice  
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  - Emma Sokell  
  - Brian Vohlsen  
  - Dominic Zerulla

- Contact: John Scanlan  T: 01 708 6017  
  - Tomas Ward  
  - Peter Wellstead

**DCU**
- Contact: Richard Stokes  T: 01 700 6188  
  - Martin Clynes  
  - Phil Cummins  
  - Oliver Dolly  
  - Robert Forster  
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  - Ronan Murphy  
  - Richard O’Kennedy  
  - Dermot Walls

**UL**
- Contact: Paul Dillon  T: 061 202 611  
  - Michael Connelly  
  - John Cooke  
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**NUIM**
- Contact: John Scanlan  T: 01 708 6017  
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# Diagnostics

## Detection Platforms

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John Sheridan  
Bill Watson  
Robert Whelan |
Contact: Brendan T. Cremen  
021 420 5881 |
Desmond Brennan  
Thomas Cotter  
Paul Galvin  
Mary Manning  
Alan O’ Riordan  
Dorothy O’Connor  
Dmitri Papkovsky  
Michelle Sheehan  
Karen Twomey |
Contact: Richard Stokes  
01 700 6188 |
Martin Clynes  
Dermot Diamond  
Paul Dowling  
Jens Ducree  
Robert Forster  
Tia Keyes  
Tony Killard  
Anne Marie Larkin  
Paul Leonard  
Brian MacCrathi  
Richard O’ Kennedy  
Rob O’ Connor  
Malcolm Smyth  
Dermot Walls  
David Williams |
NUIM | Contact: Paul Dillon  
061 202 611 |
Khali Arshak  
John Cooke  
Tara Dalton  
Eric Dalton  
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Ronan Grimes  
Des Leddin  
David Newport |
Contact: John Scanlan  
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Ber Alcock  
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John Collins  
Sean Doyle  
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Donal O’Mathuna  
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Louise O Connor  
Muriel Voisin |
Contact: Paul Dillion  
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John Cooke  
Philip Griffin  
Edmond Magner  
Clodagh O’Gorman |
Contact: Gearoid Tuohy  
01 402 2362 |
Alice Stanton |
Contact: Richard Stokes  
01 7006188 |
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Anthony Staines |
Contact: Ciaran O’Beirne  
01 716 3713 |
David Barton  
Hugh Brady  
Geraldine Butler  
Dolores Cahill  
Sean Callanan  
Gemma Cannon  
Michael Carr  
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Contact: Pat O’Donnell  
01 404 2864 |
Agnieszka Kowolska |
Contact: Padraig Gallagher  
074 918 6082 |
Wolfbram Bruck  
Brian Carney  
Denis McCrudden  
John Slater |
Contact: Kathryn Kiely  
051 302 034 |
Orla O’Donovan |
# MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES

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**MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES**

### Material Technologies

**NUIG**

Contact: Fiona Neary  
T: 091-492400
- Margaret Brennan Fournet
- Mark Bruzzi
- Alan Conneely
- Martin Cormican
- Patrick Fournet
- Thomas Glynn
- Noel Harrison
- Pat McDonnell
- Peter McHugh
- Barry O'Brien
- Claire O'Connell
- Abhay Pandit
- Yury Rochev
- Alan Ryder
- Wenxin Wang
- Li Yao
- Dimitrios Zeugolis

**TCD**

Contact: James Callaghan  
T: 01 896 1427
- Ramesh Babu
- Werner Blau
- John Boland
- Michael Coey
- John Coleman
- Graham Cross
- John Donegan
- Georg Duesberg
- Yuri Gun'ko
- John Kelly
- Vojislav Krstić

**UCD**

Contact: Ciaran O’Beirne  
T: 01 718 3713
- David Browne
- Vitaly Buckin
- Giovanni Ciccotti
- David Coker
- Kenneth Dawson
- Denis Dowling
- Niall English
- Suzi Jarvis
- Don MacElroy
- Nick Quirke
- James Rice
- John Sheridan
- Kenneth Stanton
- Cosima Stubenrauch
- Ravindranathan Thampi
- Nicoio Viorol Buchete
- Brian Vohnsen

**UL**

Contact: Paul Dillon  
T: 061 202 611
- Gordon Armstrong
- Colm Birkinshaw
- Clare Crowley
- Niamh Cummins
- Declan Curran
- Eamonn DeBarra
- Stuart Hampshire
- Edmond Magnier
- Colm O’Dwyer
- Kevin Ryan
- Tofail Syed

**UC/Tyndall**

Contact: Brendan T. Cremen  
T: 021 420 5881
- Giogos Fagas
- Justin Holmes

**NUIM**

Contact: Ciaran O’Beirne  
T: 01 718 3713
- Vitaly Buckin
- Denis Dowling
- David FitzPatrick
- Michael Gilchrist
- Paddy Nixon
- Kenneth Stanton

**DCU**

Contact: Richard Stokes  
T: 01 7006188
- Dermot Brougham
- Dermot Diamond
- Robert Forster
- John Gallagher
- Andreas Heise
- Tia Keyes
- Tony Killard
- Mirek Macka
- Garrett McGuinness
- Patrick McNaill
- Jean-Paul Mosnier
- Brett Paul
- Fiona Regan
- Johannes G. Vos

**Athlone IT**

Contact: Breda Lynch  
T: 090 648 3041
- Mark Atterbury
- Paul Blackie
- Clement Higginbotham
- James Kennedy
- Michael Nugent

**Cork IT**

Contact: Ronan Coleman  
T: 021 432 6017
- Guillaume Huyet
- Eamonn O’Neill

**ITs**

Contact: Kathryn Kiely  
T: 051 302 034
- John O’Dwyer
- Ramesh Raghavendra

### Prototyping Design & Development

**NUIG**

Contact: Fiona Neary  
T: 091-492400
- Valerie Barron
- Frank Barry
- Mark Bruzzi
- Alan Conneely
- Garry Duffy
- Maève Duffy
- Stefan Loftled
- Peter McHugh
- Laoise McNamara
- Fearghal Morgan
- Barry O'Brien
- Claire O'Connell
- Abhay Pandit
- Eric Stenzel

**TCD**

Contact: James Callaghan  
T: 01 896 1427
- Martin Hegner
- Daniel Kelly
- Alex Lennon
- Bruce Murphy
- Patrick Prendergast

**UCD**

Contact: John Scanlan  
T: 01 708 6017
- Ber Alcock
- Carmel Breslin
- Denise Rooney

**RCSI**

Contact: Gearoid Tuohy  
T: 01 402 2362
- John Gleeson
- Fergal O'Brien

**NUIM**

Contact: Ciaran O’Beirne  
T: 01 718 3713
- Vitaly Buckin
- Denis Dowling
- David FitzPatrick
- Michael Gilchrist
- Paddy Nixon
- Kenneth Stanton

**DCU**

Contact: Richard Stokes  
T: 01 7006188
- Dermot Brougham
- Dermot Diamond
- Tony Killard
- Garrett McGuinness

**ITs**

Contact: Padraig Gallagher  
T: 074 918 6062
- Denis McCrudden
- John Slater

**Waterford IT**

Contact: Kathryn Kiely  
T: 051 302 034
- John O’Dwyer
- Ramesh Raghavendra

**Colin Deевой**

Contact: Tom Flanagan  
T: 01 402 7028
- Paula Bourke
- John Colreavy
- Declan McCormack
- Suresh Pillai
- Michael Seery

**IT Sligo**

Contact: Niall McEvoy  
T: 071 515 5385
- Justin Knecht

**IT Treacte**

Contact: Jerry Clifford  
T: 086 714 5637
- Pat Doody
- Joseph Walsh

**Letterkenny IT**

Contact: Pat O’Donnell  
T: 01 404 2864
- Ethne Dempsey

**Dublin IT**

Contact: Tom Flanagan  
T: 01 402 7028
- Paula Bourke
- John Colreavy
- Declan McCormack
- Suresh Pillai
- Michael Seery

**IT Tallaght**

Contact: Padraig Gallagher  
T: 074 918 6062
- Denis McCrudden
- John Slater

**Waterford IT**

Contact: Kathryn Kiely  
T: 051 302 034
- John O’Dwyer
- Ramesh Raghavendra
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**Medical Technologies (Bio)Mechanical & Precision Engineering**

- **New Product Development & Process Improvement**

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**Athlone IT**
- Contact: Breda Lynch | 090 648 3041 |
- Alan Murphy | Neil Rowan |

**Cork IT**
- Contact: Ronan Coleman | 021 432 6017 |
- Eamonn O’Neill | Guillaume Huyet |

**IT Tallaght**
- Contact: Pat O’Donnell | 01 404 2864 |
- Ethne Dempsey |

**Galway-Mayo IT**
- Contact: John Kennedy | 091 742 8284 |
- Patrick Delassus | John Kelly |

**IT Carlow**
- Contact: Brian Oglivie | 059 917 5223 |
- Dina Brazil | James Brennan |
- Simon Johnson | Shane O’Connell |
- Eoghan O’Donoghue | Rosemary O’Hara |
- Ramesh Raghavendra | David Tormey |
- Joseph Walsh |
### MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES

#### Measurement Technology

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- Contact: Fiona Neary
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- Alan Conneely
- Chris Dainty
- Maev Duffy
- Martin Glavin
- Thomas Glynn
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- Nathan Quinlan

- Contact: James Callaghan
- 01 896 1427
- Brian Connell
- Roman Kantor
- Guido Mariotto
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- Contact: Brendan T. Cremen
- 021 420 5881
- Brian Corbett
- Paul Galvin
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- Contact: John Scanlan
- 01 708 6017
- Mary Anne Dalton
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- Contact: Richard Stokes
- 01 700 6188
- Dermot Brougham
- John Gallagher
- Tony Killard
- Paul Leonard
- Ronan Murphy

- Contact: Breda Lynch
- 090 648 3041
- Salwa Barkwan
- Sinead Lordan
- Paul Tomkins

- Contact: Kathryn Kiely
- 051 302 034
- Stephen Beatty
- Eoghan O’Donoghue
- Ramesh Raghavendra
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<td>Targeted Therapeutics &amp; Theranostics (DCU)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **NUIG** | **Contact:** Fiona Neary  
**T:** 091 492 400  
**Email:** fiona.neary@nuigalway.ie |
|---|---|
| **Frank Barry**  
**Aoroe Boyd**  
**Rhodri Credidig**  
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| **UCC/Tyndall** | **Contact:** Brendan T. Cremen  
**T:** 021 420 5881  
**Email:** brendan.cremen@ucc.ie |
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**Michael P Ryan**  
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**Dominic Walsh**  |

| **RCSI** | **Contact:** Gearoid Tuohy  
**T:** 01 402 2362  
**Email:** gearoid.tuohy@rCSI.ie |
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**John Stephens**  
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| **UCD** | **Contact:** James O’Belrie  
**T:** 01 716 3713  
**Email:** james.obelrie@ucd.ie |
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| **Teagasc** | **Contact:** Frank O’Mara  
**T:** 059 917 0200  
**Email:** frank.omara@teagasc.ie |
|---|---|
| **Paul Cotter**  
**Paul Ross** |

| **UL** | **Contact:** Paul Dillon  
**T:** 061 202 611  
**Email:** paul.dillon@ul.ie |
|---|---|
| **Jaki Cooney**  
**William O’Connor**  
**Tiwfik Soulimane** |

| **NUIM** | **Contact:** John Scanlan  
**T:** 01 708 6017  
**Email:** john.scanlan@nuim.ie |
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| **Breda Lynch**  
**Clement Higginbotham**  
**James Kennedy**  
**Michael Nugent**  
**Paul Tomkins**  |

| **ITs** | **Contact:** Breda Lynch  
**T:** 090 648 3041  
**Email:** breda.lynn@its.ie |
|---|---|
| **Cork IT**  
**Contact:** Ronan Coleman  
**T:** 021 432 6017  
**Email:** ronan.coleman@itcork.ie |
| **Dundalk IT**  
**Contact:** Tim McCarron  
**T:** 042 937 0459  
**Email:** tim.mccarron@dundalkit.ie |

| **Dublin IT**  
**Contact:** James McInerney  
**T:** 01 896 1427  
**Email:** james.mcinerney@dublinit.ie |
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**Email:** tim.mccarron@dundalkit.ie |

| **IT Tallaght**  
**Contact:** Pat O’Donnell  
**T:** 01 404 2866  
**Email:** pat.odonnell@itallaght.ie |
|---|---|
| **IT Carlow**  
**Contact:** Brian Ogilvie  
**T:** 059 917 5223  
**Email:** brian.ogilvie@itcarlow.ie |
| **IT Sligo**  
**Contact:** Niall McEvoy  
**T:** 071 915 5385  
**Email:** niall.mcevoy@itsligo.ie |

| **IT Tralee**  
**Contact:** Siobhan Moane  
**T:** 066 714 5637  
**Email:** siobhan.moane@ittralee.ie |
|---|---|
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**Contact:** Niall McEvoy  
**T:** 071 915 5385  
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| **IT Tralee**  
**Contact:** Siobhan Moane  
**T:** 066 714 5637  
**Email:** siobhan.moane@ittralee.ie |

| **Limerick IT**  
**Contact:** Siobhan Moane  
**T:** 061 208 458  
**Email:** siobhan.moane@itlimerick.ie |
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**T:** 021 432 6017  
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| **Dundalk IT**  
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**T:** 042 937 0459  
**Email:** tim.mccarron@dundalkit.ie |
## PHARMA BIO

### Therapeutic Delivery

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- Anthony Moran
- Paul Murphy
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- Contact: James Callaghan
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- John Slater

**Limerick IT**
- Contact: Siobhan Moane
  - 061 208 458
- Patrick Murray
- Johnathan O’Driscoll
- Daniel Walsh

**Waterford IT**
- Contact: Kathryn Kiely
  - 051 302 034
- June Frisby
- Helen Hughes
- Peter McLoughlin

## PHARMA BIO
### Wellness

**UCD**
- Contact: Ciaran O’Beirne
  - 01 716 3713
- Mike Gibney
- John O’Doherty
- Dolores O’Riordan
- Helen Roche

**UCC/Tyndall**
- Contact: Brendan T. Cremen
  - 021 420 5881
- John Cryan
- Ted Dinan
- Gerald Fitzgerald
- Colin Hill

**Teagasc**
- Contact: Frank O’Mara
  - 059 917 0200
- Paul Ross
- Catherine Stanton

**UL**
- Contact: Paul Dillon
  - 081 202 611
- Richard Fitzgerald
- Martin Hayes
- Philip Jakeman
- William O’Connor
- Amir Shafat
- Gary Walsh

**NUIM**
- Contact: John Scanlan
  - 01 708 6017
- Andrew Coogan
- Kevin Kavanagh
- Noel Murphy

**DCU**
- Contact: Richard Stokes
  - 01 700 6188
- Niall Moyna
- Donal O’Gorman
- Anthony Staines

**IT Carlow**
- Contact: Brian Ogilvie
  - 059 917 5223
- Sharon Kinsella
- Paula Rankin
- Noel Richardson
- Jenny Wallace
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### Veterinary Diagnostics

| NUIG | Contact: Fiona Neary  
| T: 091 492 400 |
|------|------------------|
|      | Thomas Barry    |
|      | Barry Glynn     |
|      | Louise O Connor |
|      | Terry Smith     |

| Teagasc | Contact: Frank O’Mara  
| 059 917 0200 |
|---------|------------------|
|         | Paul Cotter      |
|         | Richard Fallon   |
|         | Anne-Maria Mullen|

| NUIM | Contact: John Scanlan  
| 01 708 6017 |
|------|------------------|
|      | James McInerney  |

| UL | Contact: Richard Stokes  
| 01 700 6188 |
|-----|------------------|
|     | Paul Leonard     |
|     | Richard O’Kennedy|
|     | Dermot Walls    |

| NUIM | Contact: John Scanlan  
| 01 708 6017 |
|------|------------------|
|      | James McInerney  |

| RCSI | Contact: Gearoid Tuohy  
| 01 402 2362 |
|------|------------------|
|      | John Kelly      |

| ITs  | Athlone IT  
|      | Contact: Breda Lynch  
|      | 090 648 3041 |
|      | Mary Booth     |

| Cork IT | Contact: Ronan Coleman  
| 021 432 6017 |
|---------|------------------|
|         | Jim O’Mahony    |

| IT Tallaght | Contact: Pat O’Donnell  
| 01 404 2864 |
|-------------|------------------|
|             | Eithne Dempsey  |

### Veterinary Medicines

| UCD | Contact: Ciaran O’Beirne  
| 01 716 3713 |
|-----|------------------|
|     | Alan Baird        |
|     | Pieter Brama      |
|     | Sean Callanan     |
|     | Stephen Carrington|
|     | Frank Crosby      |
|     | Mark Crowe        |
|     | Theo de Waal      |
|     | Grace Mulcahy     |

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| NUIM | Contact: John Scanlan  
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|      | Kevin Kavanagh   |

| RCSI | Contact: Gearoid Tuohy  
| 01 402 2362 |
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|      | John Kelly      |

### Animal Genetics/Genomics

| NUIG | Contact: Fiona Neary  
| T: 091 492 400 |
|------|------------------|
|      | Grace Davey     |

| TCD  | Contact: James Callaghan  
| 01 896 1427 |
|------|------------------|
|      | Patrick Cunningham|

| UCD | Contact: Ciaran O’Beirne  
| 01 716 3713 |
|-----|------------------|
|     | Maurice Boland   |
|     | Tommy Boland     |
|     | Mark Crowe       |
|     | Michael Doherty  |

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|         | Richard Dewhurst |
|         | Bernadette Earley|
|         | Orla Keane       |
|         | David Lynn       |
|         | Kieran Meade     |
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|      | Ann Burnell      |
|      | Sean Doyle       |
|      | James McInerney  |
|      | Davide Pisani    |

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|      | 090 648 3041 |
|      | Salwa Barkwan   |
|      | Sinead Devery   |
|      | Paul Tomkins    |

| Cork IT | Contact: Ronan Coleman  
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## ANIMAL HEALTH

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# CHEMICALS

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| ITs | Athlone IT Contact: Breda Lynch 090 649 3041  | Cork IT Contact: Ronan Coleman 021 432 6017 | Dublin IT Contact: Tom Flanagan 01 402 7028  |
|-----|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------
|     | Sean Reidy  Jim Roche  Ambrose Furey | Patrice Behan  John Cassidy  Barry Foley | Patrice Behan  John Cassidy  Barry Foley |

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<th>Contact: Georard Tuohy 01 402 2362</th>
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| ITs | Athlone IT Contact: Breda Lynch 090 649 3041  | Cork IT Contact: Ronan Coleman 021 432 6017 | Dublin IT Contact: Tom Flanagan 01 402 7028  |
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|     | Sean Reidy  Jim Roche  Ambrose Furey | Patrice Behan  John Cassidy  Barry Foley | Patrice Behan  John Cassidy  Barry Foley |

| ITs | Athlone IT Contact: Breda Lynch 090 649 3041  | Cork IT Contact: Ronan Coleman 021 432 6017 | Dublin IT Contact: Tom Flanagan 01 402 7028  |
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|-----|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------
|     | Sean Reidy  Jim Roche  Ambrose Furey | Patrice Behan  John Cassidy  Barry Foley | Patrice Behan  John Cassidy  Barry Foley |
Alimentary Glycoscience Research Cluster (AGRC)

The Alimentary Glycoscience Research Cluster is an SFI funded cluster programme between industry and academia, based at NUIG. AGRC studies the glycomic responses of gut epithelial cells to colonisation with selected commensal and pathogenic microorganisms and to the presence of milk oligosaccharides, using existing tools for glycoanalysis, lectin analysis, and transcriptomics. The SGRC is also developing innovative, high throughput analytical platforms for glycan analysis and developing mimics and analogues of host glycans and the corresponding lectins involved in these interactions.

Tel: +353 (0)91 495737
Email: Lokesh.Joshi@nuigalway.ie
Web: www.agrc.ie

Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre (APC)

The Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre is a research centre funded by Science Foundation Ireland and industry partners. The APC is a partnership between University College Cork and Teagasc, the Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority, which focuses on research in gastrointestinal health. Pharmabiotic is a neologism devised by the APC to represent any material (including molecules and microbes) originating from the gut ecosystem that can be exploited for a health benefit, and includes probiotics, prebiotics, metabolites, and potential new anti-microbials and anti-inflammatories.

Tel: +353 (0)21 4901320
Email: s.cudmore@ucc.ie
Web: apc.ucc.ie
All Ireland Cooperative Oncology Research Group (ICORG)

The mission of the All Ireland Co-operative Oncology Research Group (ICORG) is to enable Irish patients to gain early access to new cancer treatments. ICORG counts more than 95% of the Islands cancer treating consultants among its membership ensuring that research into cancer develops at a national level across all localities. In its first ten years ICORG has opened 71 research protocols and allowed access to research treatments for more than 2600 Irish cancer patients.

ICORG has also developed strong links with many leading international cancer research groups such as the NSABP, TORI, CRUK and BCIRG and those in industry developing the most promising new cancer treatments. As a result of these positive relationships, Irish patients are now being offered cutting edge research options that previously would only have been available in the United States and Europe.

ICORG is a not-for-profit registered charity with support from the Irish Cancer Society, the Health Research Board (HRB) and the Ireland Northern Ireland National Cancer Institute.

Tel: +353 (0)1 6677211
Email: info@icorg.ie
Web: www.icorg.ie

Analytical & Biological Chemistry Research Facility (ABCRF)

The Analytical & Biological Chemistry Research Facility (ABCRF), is a state of the art interdisciplinary research centre housed in the new Cavanagh Pharmacy Building in University College Cork. Directed by Professor Anita Maguire, the ABCRF recognises that most of the key developments in the Pharmaceutical area today take place at the Chemistry-Biology interface, with interdisciplinary teams of researchers drawn from Chemistry, Pharmacy and the BioSciences contributing to the design and development of new pharmaceutical agents. UCC has established this new research facility combining researchers from Chemistry - Synthetic and Analytical - and Biochemistry to bridge these two research disciplines.

Tel: +353 (0)21 4901694
Email: debbie.curran@ucc.ie
Web: www.ucc.ie/en/abcrf

Atlantic Centre for Atomistic Modelling (ACAM)

An example of the product offering Atlantic Centre for Atomistic Modelling (ACAM) is their considerable local expertise in the development and application of multi scale coarse graining simulation methods with example applications including: modeling nanoscale rheological phenomena for drug delivery systems, and simulations of biophysical systems exploring the molecular basis of disease, and treatment.

Tel: +353 (0)1 7161853,
Email: david.coker@ucd.ie
Web: www.acam.ie
Biomedical Diagnostics Institute (BDI)

The Biomedical Diagnostics Institute (BDI) at DCU is a Science Foundation Ireland CSET (Centre for Science, Engineering and Technology). Established in October 2005, the BDI, an Academic-Industrial-Clinical partnership, carries out cutting-edge research programmes focussed on the development of next-generation biomedical diagnostic devices. These devices are targeted at Point of Care applications and include near-patient testing, self-testing in the home and diagnosis of disease in the low-resource environments of the developing world. Many of the new devices will also incorporate advanced communication technologies to enable expert monitoring to be provided remotely from the patient.

The BDI research programme encompasses two types of research activity:

1. Fundamental research (core Research Programmes) that address the generic issues (e.g. biorecognition; transduction, microfluidics, surface science) that underpin the development of novel diagnostic devices.
   - Biomolecular Recognition
   - Functional Diagnostics in Platelet Biology
   - Transduction Science
   - Signal Amplification Science
   - Microfluidic Platforms
   - Surface Science of Bioassay Devices

2. Application-focused research projects, which are typically informed by the commercial vision of our industry partners and address significant unmet healthcare needs. Examples of Integration Projects include: Coagulation Monitoring Device, CVD Risk Biochip and Bovine Mastitis Diagnostic Biochip.

Tel: + 353 (0)1 7007658
Email: bdi@dcu.ie
Web: www.bdi.ie

Biomerit Research Centre

The Biomerit Research Centre (BRC) was established in 1991 as a centre of excellence in the Microbiology Department. The mission of the BRC is to Maximise Education and Research in Innovative Biotechnology. The centre was established to promote, co-ordinate and develop key biotechnology research activities in the thematic area of Environment and Health by targeting strategic research funding to sustain and develop research in this area. Basic and translational research is carried out in the centre and utilises a systems microbiology approach to drive research and technology transfer around three core programmes. (1) Microbial-Host Interactions, (2) Functional Genomics and Signalling in Gram-negative bacteria and (3) Environmental Biotechnology.

Tel: +353 (0)21 4272097
Email: f.ogara@ucc.ie
Web: www.ucc.ie/en/biomerit
Biosciences Institute (BSI)

The Biosciences Institute is the research arm of the School of Life Sciences (Anatomy; Biochemistry; Microbiology; Physiology; and Pharmacology and Therapeutics) in University College Cork. Life science research is a central pillar of the national agenda for science and technology (SSTI). In UCC, life sciences research is a flagship for the University's international standing, and it accounts for a major portion of the high impact research output, research income, and PhD student training. The Biosciences Institute, through its robust governance and innovative researchers serves as a portal to and from UCC to the external scientific community. By its nature, life science research is integrated with all other research areas in the biological, clinical, physical, chemical and mathematical sciences. It requires a broad range of scientific and technological expertise, and is also the lynchpin for enabling research activity in diverse disciplines to be applied for the benefit of mankind in areas such as health and the environment.

Tel: +353 (0)21 4901435
Email: bsireception@ucc.ie
Web: www.ucc.ie/en/bsi

Biosciences Research Institute (BRI)

The Biosciences Research Institute (BRI) based at Athlone Institute of Technology is engaged in research on biopolymers and pharmacologically active compounds and materials. It embraces strategic research areas in bioscience and chemistry with an important interface with materials.

Key research areas include:
• Biodegradable Materials
• Cell and Molecular
• Environmental Science and Chemical Analysis
• Biomedical and Health Science

Tel: + 353 (0)90 642 4544
Email: ptomkins@ait.ie
Web: www.ait.ie/bri

Centre for Advanced Photonics and Process Analysis (CAPPA)

The Centre for Advanced Photonics and Process Analysis (CAPPA) at the Cork Institute of Technology is a focal point for industry-led applied research in Optics and Photonics in the Cork region. The CAPPA centre develops new photonic devices and techniques that will find applications in process analytical technology, in particular for the pharmaceutical and medical technology industries.

Tel: +353 (0)21 4326534
Email: eamonn.oneill@cit.ie
Web: www.cappa.ie
Centre for Affective Software for Ambient Living Awareness (CASALA)

The Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT) has established a new applied research centre, CASALA, funded by Enterprise Ireland, to work with industry to achieve technology product innovation, business competitiveness, and market leadership in this sector. CASALA is the commercial arm of the Netwell Centre, which is also based within the DkIT and is supported by grant aids from The Atlantic Philanthropies. The Netwell Centre is developing new ideas that enhance the quality of life and well-being of older people and those who care for them, through more integrated community-oriented services, more sustainable home and neighbourhood design, and more age-friendly technologies. Also based at DKIT is the Regulated Software Research Group (RSRG) established in 2008 and supported by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI). The main objective of this group is to support the development of the Irish medical device software industry. This research involves the development and integration of research from three different areas: the development of reference and assessment models for 10 foundational medical device software processes; the development of software process assessment methods and software process improvement roadmaps; and the inclusion of the global software development strategies.

Tel: +353 (0)87 0516705
Email: andrew.macfarlane@dkit.ie
Web: www.dkit.ie

Centre for Applied Biomedical Engineering Research (CABER)

The Centre for Applied Biomedical Engineering Research (CABER) is a University of Limerick (UL) designated research centre based in the Materials and Surface Science Institute (MSSI). The Centre was established in the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering in 2004. It aims to pursue world class research in the field of biomedical engineering and its core activities focus on basic and applied research in the fields of:

- Cardiovascular Fluid Mechanics
- Orthopaedic Biomechanics
- Cell and tissue engineering

CABER has a close working relationship with the clinical community nationally and internationally and strong research relationships with Georgia Institute of Technology, the University of Pittsburgh and Duke University and is developing links with the University of Capetown.

Tel: +353 (0)61 202217
Email: tim.mcgloughlin@ul.ie
Web: www.ul.ie/caber
**Centre for Bioanalytical Sciences (CBAS)**

The Centre for Bioanalytical Sciences (CBAS) focuses on developing a clear understanding of the molecular mechanisms involved in the development of novel cell and tissue-specific biotherapeutics, with particular emphasis on the role of glycosylation in determining pharmacokinetic properties.

Five research streams exist
- Rapid oligosaccharide structural elucidation
- Lectin-based biorecognition
- Immunosensor and advanced analytical platform development
- In-process media component analysis
- Advanced separation platforms

Current primary research focus is on translational systems biology-based approaches relating to the disease cluster of cardiovascular disease, diabetes and Chronic Kidney Disease. This research aims at developing a comprehensive new understanding of the mechanisms of these disease states through the investigation of the molecular components at the proteomic, glycomic and genomic levels, and developing outputs for industrial collaborations.

The CBAS research unit is located in the newly-developed state-of-the-art BioResearch Laboratory facilities in DCU and NUIG.

Tel: +353 (0)91 495737  
Email: kieran.odwyer@dcu.ie  
Web: www.cbas.ie

**Centre for BioNano Interactions (CBNI)**

The Centre for BioNano Interactions (CBNI) based at UCD is Ireland's National Platform for BioNanoInteraction science, and draws together specialists from its Universities, Institutes and companies. It is a Centre of Knowledge in bionanointeractions applied to the fields of nanosafety, nanobiology and nanomedicine, and is developing many new techniques and approaches in the arena.

Key areas of interest include
- Interactions between nanoparticles and the living world
- NanoPhotonics, nanoelectronics and nanobiomarine
- Environmental impact of nanoparticles
- Nanoparticles and neurodegenerative disease

Tel: +353 (0)1 7162447  
Email: info@cbni.eu  
Web: www.cbni.eu
Centre for Health and Diet Research (CHDR)

The overall aim of the Health Research Board’s Centre for Health and Diet Research (CHDR) is to provide the evidence base for public policy, health promotion and clinical practice on the prevention and management of obesity, diabetes and related metabolic disorders. The objectives of the CHDR will be addressed in five discrete but interlinked research clusters spanning population-based, clinical, translational and policy relevant research projects, using quantitative and qualitative research methodologies and within the framework of research designs employed in health and social sciences, including market/consumer behaviour research.

Tel: +353 (0) 214901612
Email: K.Mulcahy@ucc.ie
Web: www.ucc.ie/en/hrbc/Home/

Centre for Innovation in Surgical Technology (CIST)

RCSI’s Centre for Innovation in Surgical Technology (CIST) is uniquely positioned to bring together a team of highly skilled individuals to support the innovation, testing, licensing and marketing of new surgical devices and technology. The expert in-house team will initially assess all ideas and innovations for viability (e.g. clinical need and relevance, cost-benefit analysis etc), examine the technical feasibility and advise on prototype construction. Ideas which are considered to be viable will be provided with a formal action plan.

CIST Innovation will:
• Develop technologies (process and product) to increase the standards of care
• Enable surgeons and others to get their ideas explored & evaluated
• Develop an IP process and work with RCSI TTO, European and US patent lawyers for filing patent applications
• Ensure advances in surgery with technology
• Ensure Surgeons are embedded into the device design process
• Ensure Surgeons are involved in defining the surgical market
• Ensure publications come from Surgeons’ Innovations
• Access RCSI’s training program & curriculum (NSTC)
• Synergise with the needs of the Medical Device Industry with regards to clinical verification and validation studies (CCR&D)
• Work with the Technology Transfer Office at RCSI and other institutes to maximise innovation in these areas

Tel: +353 (0)1 4022336
Email: derekyoung@rcsi.ie
Web: www.rcsi.ie/index.jsp?1nID=93&2nID=95&3nID=122&nID=1544
Centre for Pain Research (CPR)

The Centre for Pain Research (CPR) based at the National University of Ireland, Galway (and including University College Hospital Galway) is the first and only centre in Ireland dedicated to pain research and education. It brings together basic scientists, pain clinicians, psychologists, medical sociologists, health economists, other healthcare professionals and experts in policy and legal aspects of pain, with the aim of enhancing research collaboration and output and promoting education in, and understanding of, pain and its treatment.

The Centre’s research activity is centred on a number of clusters which include:
- Pre-clinical research: Nociception, the mechanism of action of analgesics and identification of novel analgesic targets. An integrative, whole-systems approach is employed, combining animal models with in vivo and ex vivo measurement of neurochemical release, receptor expression and signal transduction.
- Pain treatment and pain management: Development and evaluation of a range of approaches to pain management and pain treatment, including the range of physical, psychological, pharmacological and medical interventions.
- Integration of pre-clinical pain research and clinical practice: Promoting collaborative work which facilitates the translation of relevant pre-clinical research to the clinical setting.

Tel: +353 (0)91 524411
Email: brian.mcguire@nuigalway.ie
Web: www.nuigalway.ie/centre_pain_research

Centre for Research in Engineering Surface Technology (CREST)

The Centre for Research in Engineering Surface Technology (CREST) is a national centre of excellence in the applied research area of specialised coatings. The Centre has grown from the initial three staff members to ten full-time DIT staff members and six CREST postgraduate students. The Centre serves up to 100 clients per annum, has delivered three commercial licenses for DIT, filed one patent and published 14 research publications in the field of surface coatings. The centre has 3 predominant research themes: Corrosion Control, Hygiene Surfaces & Air Quality.

Tel: +353 (0)1 4027940
Email: john.colreavy@dit.ie
Web: www.crestdit.com

Centre for Research in Vascular Biology (CRVB)

The Centre for Research in Vascular Biology (CRVB) laboratory is located within the BioSciences Institute (BSI), University College Cork, Ireland. The BSI was opened in September 2002 and houses more than 200 scientists from various departments (Biochemistry, Food Science, Medicine, Microbiology, Neuroscience/Anatomy, Nutrition, Physiology, and Surgery, as well as three research centres (BIOMERIT Research Centre, the Cork Cancer Research Centre and the Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre). It also offers translational research area off campus at the Biological Service Unit (BSU).

Tel: +353 (0)21 4901326
Email: admin@crvb.eu
Web: www.crvb.eu
Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices (CRANN)

The Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices (CRANN) at TCD is an SFI funded Centre for Science, Engineering and Technology (CSET). CRANN has a specific remit to work with industry and works at the frontiers of nanoscience developing new knowledge of nanoscale chemical and physical phenomena, with a particular focus on new device and sensor technologies.

Industry Facing Research includes:
- Computational Studies
- Integrated Nanoscale Devices
- BioNanoAssay & BioSensing
- Computational Studies

The BioNano Laboratory is a recent development of CRANN and possesses a breadth of research expertise for the investigation of molecular, cellular and physiological interactions using novel biophysical tools such as cell actuators, magnetic and ultrasound fields.

The research activities of the group members are major components of a number of inter-disciplinary research initiatives, including:
- Cell Biology and Genetics
- Pharmacology
- Magnetics
- Nanomedicine Interdisciplinary Research Groups.

Tel: +353 (0)1 8963030
Email: crann@tcd.ie
Web: www.crann.tcd.ie

Centre for Scientific Computing and Complex Systems Modelling (SciSym)

The Centre for Scientific Computing and Complex Systems Modelling (SciSym) at DCU is a centre of excellence for researchers working in high performance computing (HPC) applied to computational and mathematical models for complex systems in engineering, natural and applied sciences.

Research themes relevant to Health Life Sciences include:
- Molecular Evolution
- Epigenetics
- Multi-Agent Biosystems
- Microarray Data Analysis

Tel: +353 (0)1 7005513
Email: martin.crane@dcu.ie
Web: sci-sym.computing.dcu.ie
Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology (CSCB)

The Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology (CSCB) based in School of Chemistry & Chemical Biology at UCD and established in 2001 is a central element in supporting Ireland’s pharma/biopharma industry. The centre provides an understanding of the chemical basis of biology and development, and provides unique chemical tools for biology, earth science and medicine.

Key areas of interest include identification of molecular mechanisms underlying human and animal diseases in the areas of:

• Nervous System Related Disorders
• Cancer
• Vascular Disease
• Inflammation, Infection and Immunity
• Chemical Tools for Biology and Medicine
• Enabling Technologies

Phone: +353 (0)1 7162302
Email: cscb@ucd.ie
Web: www.ucd.ie/cscb

Centre of Applied Marine Biotechnology (CAMBio)

The Centre of Applied Marine Biotechnology (CAMBio) was established at Letterkenny Institute of Technology with funding under the Enterprise Ireland Applied Research Enhancement programme in 2005 to undertake applied marine biotechnology research in collaboration with the commercial sector. CAMBio expands technical capacity for biotechnology research to meet regional needs and support the development of a future knowledge economy.

The Centre extends over 170m2 and comprises modern research facilities including a molecular biology and PCR laboratory, a fluorescence in-situ hybridisation darkroom/laboratory, a general purpose research laboratory, and a technical preparation and culture laboratory.

First class research equipment includes PCR, realtime PCR, gel electrophoresis chambers, DGGE, gel documentation system, centrifuges, laminar flow cabinets, fermentation system, epifluorescent and laser microdissection microscopy, shakers, incubators, HPLC’s with PDA detection, capillary electrophoresis, spectrophotometers, fume hoods, refrigerators, -20°C freezers, autoclave and general laboratory facilities dedicated to the marine biotechnology research programme.

Tel: +353 (0)74 9186750
Email: cambio@lyit.com
Web: www.cambio.ie
CLARITY; Centre for Sensor Web Technologies

CLARITY, a collaboration between UCD, DCU and Tyndall National Institute, is a research centre that focuses on the intersection between two important research areas - Adaptive Sensing and Information Discovery - to develop innovative new technologies of critical importance to Ireland’s future industry base and contribute to improving the quality of life of people in areas such as personal health, digital media and management of our environment. The overarching theme of CLARITY’s research programme - bringing information to life - refers to the harvesting and harnessing of large volumes of sensed information, from both the physical world in which we live, and the digital world of modern communications & computing.

Tel: +353 (0)1 7162313
Email: claritycentre@ucd.ie
Web: www.clarity-centre.org

Clinical Research Facility (CRF)

A Clinical Research Facility (CRF) provides the infrastructure – the physical space, facilities and the experts - needed to support patient focused research studies. The HRB funds three CRFs across the country in partnership with the Wellcome Trust (Dublin) and the Health Service Executive (HSE) (Galway and Cork). The facilities provide access to the latest advances in research, diagnosis and treatment of diseases such as cancer, neuro-psychiatric disorders and infectious diseases. All clinical research infrastructures are coordinated though another HRB award, the Irish Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (ICRIN).

Core competencies include: Trial management, Regulatory and ethics, Trial design & statistical methodology, IT Solutions and Data management and Research & Clinical Governance.

CRF Galway
Email: lisa.daly@nuigalway.ie

CRF Dublin
Email: Jeremy.Towns@MolecularMedicineIreland.ie

CRF Cork
Email: e.quigley@ucc.ie
**Cork NeuroScience Group (CNS)**

The Cork NeuroScience (CNS) group comprises coherently linked projects in the fields of development, neural plasticity and repair. The Research group investigates a range of neurodegenerative, neurological and psychiatric diseases and disorders, including Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, epilepsy and seizures, multiple sclerosis, depression and anxiety, in addition to a number of other orphan brain diseases. Work spans across basic and clinical research allowing translational discoveries.

Tel: +353 (0)21 4901651  
Email: michaelcronin@ucc.ie  
Web: www.ucc.ie/en/cns/

**Complex and Adaptive Systems Laboratory (CASL)**

UCD’s purpose built Complex and Adaptive Systems Laboratory (CASL) established in 2006 is a dynamic, multidisciplinary research community advancing scientific knowledge through mathematics and computation.

Key areas of research:
- biomedical and health informatics  
- systems biology  
- finance  
- wireless technologies  
- energy  
- environment

Tel: +353 (0)1 7165327  
Email: casl@ucd.ie  
Web: casl.ucd.ie/
Conway Institute of Biomolecular & Biomedical Research (Conway Institute)

The UCD Conway Institute of Biomolecular & Biomedical Research is Ireland’s largest biosciences research institute, dedicated to promoting knowledge, health and economic advancement through excellence in biomolecular and biomedical sciences. Opened in 2003 the Institute’s 11,500m² building was funded through the Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions (PRTLI) along with funding from Science Foundation Ireland, Health Research Board and Wellcome Trust.

The main research centres at UCD Conway are:
• Systems biology
• Protein science
• Bio-nanotechnology
And, in the application of these to the following areas of focus:
• Diabetes & vascular biology
• Infection, immunity & repair
• Neuroscience

Through interdisciplinary programmes, the close collaboration of scientists with clinicians and industry partners underpins the translational nature of this research.

Tel: +353 (0)1 7166700
Email: elaine.quinn@ucd.ie
Web www.ucd.ie/conway

Cork Cancer Research Centre (CCRC)

Research activities at the Cork Cancer Research Centre are focused on four different themes:
Cancer Prevention: Working to detect cancer at its earliest stage.
Cell Biology: Investigating how normal and cancer cells differ.
Cancer Gene Therapy / Immunotherapy: Harnessing the body’s own defence mechanisms.
Drug Delivery Systems: Better ways to deliver chemotherapeutic drugs.

Tel: +353 (0)21 4901437
Email: info@ccrc.ie
Web: www.ccrc.ie
Department of Chemical & Environmental Sciences (CES) (UL)

Research, both applied and fundamental, is an integral part of the department’s activities. CES has a history of successful industry collaborations for start up and more established companies.

The major research interests include - Analytical chemistry, Environmental catalysis, Biosensors/electrochemistry, Organic semiconductors, Organic synthesis, Electrochemistry, Enzyme biochemistry, Surface chemistry/technology, Environmental analysis, Heterogeneous catalysis, Nanotechnology/Nanocrystals/Nanowires. The Departmental laboratories are equipped with the full range general facilities for preparation, analysis, and testing of chemical and biochemical compounds and materials. In addition many items of specialist equipment are available.

Tel: +353 (0)61 202263
Email: ces@ul.ie
Web: www2.ul.ie/web/WWW/Faculties/Science_%26_Engineering/Departments/Chemical_%26_Environmental_Science/

Department of Chemistry (UCC)

Research includes the interdisciplinary fields of pharmaceutical chemistry, materials science and nanotechnology, and environmental chemistry, as well as the traditional core disciplines of inorganic, organic, physical, and analytical chemistry. The Department of Chemistry plays an important strategic role in the region through its extensive interactions with industry both nationally and internationally.

Tel: +353 (0)21 4902379
Email: chemistry@ucc.ie
Web: chemistry.ucc.ie
Dublin Centre for Clinical Research (DCCR)

The aim of the Dublin Centre for Clinical Research (DCCR) is to provide the infrastructure for the clinical research facility at St. James’s Hospital and the HRB supports the running costs.

The DCCR Programme has been underway since the spring of 2008 and since then Clinical Interest Groups have been established in the following areas:

• Diabetes and Metabolism
• Respiratory Disease
• Gastrointestinal Medicine
• Inflammatory Skin Disease
• Prostate Cancer
• Infectious Diseases and TB
• Neuropsychiatry
• Neurodegeneration
• Ophthalmology.

As well as academic research, the DCCR is eager to collaborate with industry.

Tel: +353 (0)1 4779818
Email: jeremy.towns@molecularmedicineireland.ie
Web: www.molecularmedicineireland.ie/page/g/s/45

Hamilton Institute at NUIM

The Hamilton Institute is a multi-disciplinary research centre established at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth in November 2001. The Institute seeks to provide a bridge between mathematics and its applications in ICT and biology.

Tel: +353 (0)1 7086100
Email: Hamilton@nuim.ie
Web: www.hamilton.ie
Immunology Research Centre (IRC)

The Immunology Research Centre (IRC) is an integrated collaborative effort bringing together the leaders in the field of Immunology in Ireland with industrial partners to understand and exploit the interface between innate and adaptive immunity. This five year research programme funded by a Strategic Research Cluster award from Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) is led by Trinity College Dublin in collaboration with NUI Maynooth.

The focus of this effort is to identify and characterize novel exogenous molecules from bacteria, viruses or parasites, or endogenous molecules from host cells, produced in responses to damage or trauma, which modulate immune responses. These will then be investigated as potential new adjuvants for vaccines against infection, immunotherapeutic drugs against cancer, or as anti-inflammatory agents against autoimmune diseases. Research programmes under the IRC will generate fundamental knowledge of immune recognition of danger and how this can help to fight human diseases.

Tel: +353 (0)1 8963865
Email: walshp10@tcd.ie
Web: www.tcd.ie/Biochemistry/irc

Institute for Networks and Communications Engineering (RINCE)

The Institute for Networks and Communications Engineering (RINCE) is an Irish national research institute focussed on innovation in engineering technologies. It is based in the Faculty of Engineering and Computing at Dublin City University. Within the Faculty, Rince researchers are primarily affiliated with the School of Electronic Engineering and the School of Computing.

The current research programme of the Institute is based on three research centres:
- The Centre for Image Processing & Analysis (CIPA)
- The Centre for High Speed Devices & Systems (HSDS)
- Network Innovations Centre(NIC)

Tel: +353 (0)1 7005604
Email: ger.lardner@dcu.ie
Web: www.rince.ie

Integrated Nanoscience Platform for Ireland (INSPIRE)

The Integrated Nanoscience Platform for Ireland (INSPIRE) is a consortium of all Irish third level institutions with international leading research capability in nanoscience and nanotechnology. INSPIRE exists to foster, facilitate and ultimately ensure collaboration and partnership between top ranking Irish and international scientists and engineers in nanoscience research and education.

Web: www.inspirenano.com
International Centre for Neurotherapeutics (ICNT)

The multi-disciplinary International Centre for Neurotherapeutics (ICNT) at DCU investigates the molecular basis of communication in the nervous system, especially identifying and structurally characterising the proteins responsible for the fundamental process of quantal release of transmitters, and its indirect regulation by voltage-sensitive K+ channels.

Basic research on the selective and potent inhibition of transmitter release by botulinum neurotoxins has underpinned their clinical use in treating:

- human dystonias
- spasticity and other movement disorders
- autonomic neuronal abnormalities of secretory glands (e.g. hyper-hydrosis, -salivation and lacrimation etc.)
- over-active bladder (e.g. in spina bifida, spinal cord injuries and multiple sclerosis)
- gastrointestinal tract (e.g. pyloric sphincter).

Tel: +353 (0)1 7008979
Email: icnt@dcu.ie
Web: www.dcu.ie/icnt

Ion Channel Biotechnology Centre (ICBC)

The multidisciplinary Ion Channel Biotechnology Centre (ICBC) at Dundalk Institute of Technology is a centre of excellence in applied research capable of exploiting opportunities in life sciences for the economic benefit of regional and national Irish based Bio-Pharmaceutical Industries. The Centre uses a combination of physiology, pharmacology, molecular biology, electrophysiology and organic chemistry to focus on commercialising the results of the three identified applied research themes for the centre for the two disease states of – urinary incontinence and osteoarthritis.

Tel: +353 (0)42 9370475
Email: mary.earle@dkit.ie
Web: www.icbc.ie

Irish Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (ICRIN)

Engaging in the initial steps towards creating a harmonised and coordinated clinical research infrastructure in Ireland, Irish Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (ICRIN) has been created under a Memorandum of Understanding between University College Dublin (UCD), The University of Dublin, Trinity College, Dublin (TCD), The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), University College Cork (UCC), The National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG) and Dublin Molecular Medicine Centre (DMMC).

Tel: +353 (0)1 4779840
Email: siobhan.gaynor@molecularmedicineireland.ie
Web: www.molecularmedicineireland.ie/page/g/s/44
Irish Drug Delivery Network (IDDN)

The Irish Drug Delivery Network (IDDN) is advancing research efforts to replace injections with oral and inhaled versions of biotech molecules (e.g. proteins and gene-based medicines). David Brayden, Professor of Drug Delivery at UCD leads a team of scientists across four academic centres: the UCD Conway Institute, and the Schools of Pharmacy in Trinity College Dublin, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and University College Cork. Together, the scientists have a critical mass of expertise which is anticipated to create new and better methods of delivering biopharmaceuticals. It is an SFI funded Strategic Research Cluster (SRC).

Tel: +353 (0)1 7166017
Email: drugdelivery@ucd.ie
Web: www.ucd.ie/iddn

Macular Pigment Research Group (MPRG)

This research group is based at the Waterford Institute of Technology. Since its inception in 2002, the group has been involved in cutting edge research into the condition known as Macular Degeneration, with special emphasis on the role of nutrition in its mechanism. The director is Mr Stephen Beatty, a consultant ophthalmologist, and the deputy director is Dr John Nolan, a Fulbright Scholar, who are considered opinion leaders in the world on the relationship between nutrition, macular pigment and vision. The MPRG seeks to enhance the current understanding of age-related macular degeneration, with emphasis on the role that nutrition might play in the prevention, delay, or modification of this disease. The groups has carried out many research projects and are currently running a range of clinical studies to investigate macular and serum responses after supplementation with macular carotenoid formulations.

Tel: +353 (0) 51 845505
Email: lrushe@wit.ie
Web: www.wit.ie

Materials and Surface Science Institute (MSSI)

The Materials and Surface Science Institute (MSSI) is a national centre of excellence that generates state-of-the-art fundamental research on topics of industrial significance in the fields of surface science and materials. MSSI has gathered together faculty members from a range of academic disciplines (materials, physics, chemistry, biochemistry, and electronic, mechanical, biomedical and aeronautical engineering). MSSI utilises this interdisciplinary approach to develop and characterise materials from the atomic to the macroscopic scale, providing new materials, processes and applications, which are guided by a fundamental understanding of material properties and design requirements. The research strengths and interests of MSSI reside in four areas: (i) Nanomaterials (ii) Biomaterials (iii) Composite and Glass Materials (iv) Bio/Catalysis and Clean Technology.

Tel +353 (21) 213127
Email: mssi@ul.ie
Web: http://www2.ie/WWW/Faculties/Science_26_Engineering/Research/Research_Institutes/MSSI
Materials Processing Research Centre (MPRC)

The main focus of DCU’s Materials Processing Research Centre (MPRC) is to conduct and disseminate fundamental, strategic and applied research of the highest quality in the areas of material science and material processing techniques.

Research areas include:
- Surface Engineering
- Casting & Semi-Solid Processing
- Powder Based Processing
- Rapid Prototyping
- Material Mechanical Performance & Evaluation
- Polymers & Biomedical Devices
- Machining & Forming Processes

Tel: +353 (0)1 7005403
Email: lisa.looney@dcu.ie
Web: www.mecheng.dcu.ie/MPRC/Introduction.htm

Materials Research Institute (MRI)

The Materials Research Institute (MRI) based at Athlone Institute of Technology conducts interdisciplinary research focused on materials science and technology and delivery of contract development and testing services to industry. Its facilities are dedicated to materials synthesis; processing, manufacture, analysis and testing.

Current research include:
- development of novel polymeric drug delivery systems
- novel polymer recycling technologies
- biodegradable polymer synthesis and characterisation
- development of novel nano particulate polymeric composite systems

New and emerging areas of research include
- computational analysis
- rapid prototyping/tooling/manufacture.

Tel: +353 (0)906 468000
email: info@ait.ie
Web: www.ait.ie/mri
Medical Engineering Design and Innovation Centre (MEDIC)

The Medical Engineering Design and Innovation Centre (MEDIC), as an applied research centre of excellence, will generate a stimulus for innovation, new ideas and technology transfer in the research themes of Smart Medical Devices for Assistive Rehabilitation. This objective will be achieved by consolidating and enhancing the research capability within CIT in two specific and focused research strands namely Smart Surgical Devices & Smart Rehabilitation Devices.

Tel: +353 (0)86 8048111
Email: pat.oconnor@cit.ie
Web: www.medic.ie

Micro Sensors for Clinical Analysis (MiCRA)

Micro Sensors for Clinical Analysis (MiCRA) targets the rapidly growing biomedical diagnostics market, in particular the point-of-care sector, in particular new devices to enable early diagnosis and real-time results, i.e. the development of biosensors for the main targets in a kidney and liver function test.

Tel: +353 (0)1 4042862
Email: eithne.dempsey@it-tallaght.ie
Web: www.it-tallaght.ie/research/micra

Molecular Diagnostics Research Group (MDRG)

The Molecular Diagnostics Research Group (MDRG) at the National University of Ireland, Galway has 20 years experience and an international track record of achievement in the development and application of molecular diagnostics tests. The MDRG has developed a suite of platform technologies, based on proprietary technology for the detection and identification of bacteria and fungi. We can offer the benefit of 20 years experience in assay development and save partners time and money getting to market.

The MDRG has worked successfully with a number of commercial partners including three of six world leading in vitro diagnostics (IVD) companies, to develop molecular diagnostic products for infectious diseases based on these platform technologies.

Core R&D Competencies include:

- Target discovery:
- Nucleic acid based test design and validation
- Nucleic acid test platform technologies development
- Collaborative or contract R&D with industry
- Project management and proposal writing
- Proven Track Record in Research Commercialisation

Tel: +353 (0)91 493189
Email: thomas.barry@nuigalway.ie
Web: ncbes.nuigalway.ie/molecular-diagnostics.aspx
Molecular Medicine Ireland (MMI)

Molecular Medicine Ireland (MMI) was established by the National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG), the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), University College Cork (UCC), University College Dublin (UCD) and Trinity College Dublin (TCD) and their associated academic hospitals, as a research partnership to accelerate the translation of biomedical research into improved diagnostics and therapies for patients.

MMI was formed in response to the need to create a critical mass of excellence in molecular medicine research and education in Ireland and to deploy a clinical research infrastructure to facilitate medicine into better healthcare provision. It was formally incorporated as a not-for-profit company in April 2008 and is funded under the Higher Education Authority’s Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions; Cycle 4. MMI’s mission is to mobilise the strengths of the five partner institutions and their associated hospitals to build a sustainable national system to coordinate, support and promote translational and clinical research.

Strategic Objectives

- To connect the key players in health, research and industry
- To attract, train and retain world class researchers
- To work towards the provision of state-of-the-art facilities, bio-resources and harmonised processes
- To represent Ireland in clinical and translational research infrastructures/networks in Europe and internationally
- To build collaborative research initiatives and opportunities

Tel: +353(0)1 4779823
Email: info@molecularmedicineireland.ie
Web: www.molecularmedicineireland.ie

Molecular Therapeutics for Cancer Ireland (MTCI)

DCU based Molecular Therapeutics for Cancer Ireland (MTCI) is a Science Foundation Ireland-funded Strategic Research Cluster in association with DCU, UCD, TCD, RCSI and the All-Ireland Cooperative Oncology Research Group (ICORG) which aims to discover and develop new anti-cancer drugs.

Research Strands include:

- Novel Targeted Therapies for Triple Negative Breast Cancer
- Response and Resistance to HER2 Targeted Therapies in Breast Cancer
- Targeting IGF Signalling in Breast Cancer
- Molecular Determinants of Resistance to Endocrine-directed Therapies

Tel: +353 (0)1 7007467
Email: researchmanager@mtci.ie
Web: www.mtci.ie
**Moorepark Animal Research Programme - Animal Health and Well-Being**

The overall objective of the research studies and innovation activities focuses on maintaining healthy national dairy herds based on effective disease control in a welfare-friendly environment and reduced anathelmentic and antibiotic usage with animals.

Specific objectives include -
- Reduced incidence of infectious diseases in the Irish dairy cattle herds.
- Improved welfare standards on Irish dairy farms
- Development of optimal mastitis control programmes and procedures

Tel: +353 (0)25 42222  
Email: moorepark_dairy@teagasc.ie  
Web: [www.agresearch.teagasc.ie/moorepark/researchprogramme/ar_health.asp](http://www.agresearch.teagasc.ie/moorepark/researchprogramme/ar_health.asp)

**NANO-BIO Laboratory (UCD)**

At the UCD NANO-BIO Laboratories, a highly multi-disciplinary community of researchers is working to develop novel technologies capable of imaging from the nanoscale to the macroscale. Target application areas include the development of new contrast agents and instrumentation that explore and reach beyond current limits of resolution and contrast to non-destructively probe samples ranging from liquids, gels, powders and films to living cells, in vivo tissues, and even living organisms, including the human subject. Specific emphasis is also placed on the development of innovative diagnostic and therapeutic tools that can lead to improved health care methodology while simultaneously enriching our understanding of the fundamental chemical, physical and biological aspects of the systems under investigation.

A range of imaging instrumentation that may be operated in a variety of modes are currently available, including:
- Atomic force microscopy
- Ultrafast linear and non-linear optical microscopy
- Infra-red, Raman and photoluminescence imaging
- In vivo optical imaging

This instrumentation infrastructure is underpinned by excellent facilities for synthesis and physical characterisation of novel materials as well as for cell and tissue culture and live cell studies. The development of new methods and instrumentation at the NANO-BIO Laboratories are directed towards the realisation of materials, instruments and methods that can achieve information rich high resolution imaging of biological systems and processes.

Typical applications of such instrumentation include:
- Biomedical optics
- Nanoparticles for diagnostics and therapeutics
- Multiphoton bioimaging
- Nanoscale Raman imaging studies of cellular processes.
- Metamaterial based optical nanoscale bioimaging

The NANO-BIO Laboratories are intended to provide state of the art instrumentation and resources for the development, imaging and characterization of key nanoscale materials and biomaterials that are of commercial relevance to the pharmaceutical, bio-pharmaceutical, medical device and biomedical instrumentation industries.

Tel: +353 (0)1 7162229  
Email: james.rice@ucd.ie  
Web: [www.ucd.ie/physics/preston/research_nanobio.html](http://www.ucd.ie/physics/preston/research_nanobio.html)
Nano Imaging and Material Analysis Centre (NIMAC)

The UCD Nano Imaging and Material Analysis Centre (NIMAC) has the most versatile Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) in Ireland. The FEI Quanta system accommodates the widest range of samples than any SEM. System features include three SEM imaging modes (high vacuum, low vacuum and ESEM (Environmental Scanning Electron Microscopy)) ESEM mode allows in situ study of the dynamic behaviour of materials at different humidity levels (up to 100% RH) Integrated Focused Ion Beam (FIB) and material analysis capabilities allowing full in-situ analysis. The Quanta 3D FEG’s novel, field-emission electron source delivers clear and sharp electron imaging and increased electron beam current to enhance EDX (Energy Dispersive X-ray) and EBSD (Electron Backscatter Diffraction) analysis. (S)TEM sample preparation, or structural modification of sample surfaces at the nanometer scale.

NIMAC provides Imaging and Material Analysis for Research, Development and Quality Assurance Departments in the following industries:
- Semiconductors
- Medical Devices
- Industrial Diamonds
- Optic fibre/Lens
- Pharmaceutical
- Coatings
- Aerospace
- Mechanical
- Food & Drink (Packaging/Manufacturing)

Tel: +353 (0)1 7161724  
Email: ian.reid@ucd.ie  
Web: www.ucd.ie/nimac

Nanovation Laboratories (UCD)

Science Foundation Ireland and the Higher Education Authority funded the UCD Nanovation Laboratories with the aim to drive research, discovery and innovation at the nanoscale through partnership between industry and academia, by giving access to the equipment e.g. new Imaging, NanoBio, Computation and Nano-fabrication Solar Energy, and researchers in the labs, to multinational companies, as well as SMEs and startup companies.

Tel: +353 (0)1 716 1781  
Email: adrienne.coleton@ucd.ie  
Web: www.ucd.ie/engscience/science_lab.html
National Biophotonics and Imaging Platform (NBIP)

The National Biophotonics and Imaging Platform (NBIP) is an all-Ireland network of current and emerging photonics and imaging laboratories in academia and industry, harnessing recent large scale research investment in photonics, imaging and other supporting infrastructures and research activities. The NBIP Partners are RCSI, DCU, TCD, NUI Galway, NUI Maynooth, UCC, UL, DIT, DkIT, CNRS, IBB and NIN.

NBIP Ireland aims to:
• Provide a structured research and training framework for Ireland’s investment in advanced imaging applied to the Life Sciences
• Establish Graduate Training Programmes in Biophotonics and Imaging
• Bridge the Physical and Life Sciences interface and through partnership with Industry, to enhance technology developments in Biophotonics and Imaging
• Provide a national access to Core Facilities in Molecular, Cellular, Small Animal and Human Research Imaging
• Provide the infrastructure for Ireland’s participation in large-scale international research programmes underpinned by Biophotonics and Imaging

Tel: +353 (0)1 4022374
Email: nbipadmin@rcsi.ie
Web: www.nbipireland.com

National Centre for Biomedical Engineering Science (NCBES)

The National Centre for Biomedical Engineering Science (NCBES) at NUI Galway is an interdisciplinary research centre which brings together scientists, engineers, information technologists and clinicians in a team-based, problem-centred approach to research. The mission of the NCBES is to develop innovative diagnostic and therapeutic solutions to biomedical challenges through interdisciplinary and strategic research activities.

The NCBES provides an environment where expertise in molecular and cell biology, imaging technology, clinical sciences and engineering sciences merge.

The NCBES has five major research themes: Biomedical Engineering, Cancer, Neuroscience, Regenerative Medicine, Glycosciences and Glycotechnology.

The NCBES also has a strong Clinical and Translational research programme with the objective of translating our research discoveries into improved patient care including in cardiovascular disease, cancer, orthopaedics, reproductive medicine, and neurodegenerative diseases. New facilities for translational and clinical research collocated on campus will further strengthen these programmes, and excellent equipment capability.

Tel: +353 (0)91 495181
Email: biomed@nuigalway.ie
Web: ncbes.nuigalway.ie
National Centre for Laser Applications (NCLA)

The NCLA was founded in NUI-Galway by Professor Tom Glynn in 1989 as a centre of excellence in laser technology. The Centre makes its broad range of expertise and a comprehensive suite of laser systems available to manufacturing industry for the development of innovative products and processes. The Centre interacts with industry through consultancy, laboratory-based feasibility trials, full R&D services, technology transfer, prototyping, laser safety audits and a number of tailored training courses in laser technology, applications and safety. The Centre is also active in collaborative research within National and European research frameworks.

The main research themes include:
- Nanostructuring of Material surfaces
- Zero particulate laser machining for cleanroom environment
- Surface activation of polymer materials
- Laser micro-engineering process for enhanced via formation in drug delivery applications

Tel: +353 (0) 91 493595
Email: ncla@nuig.ie
Web: www.ncla.ie

National Centre for Plasma Science and Technology (NCPST)

The National Centre for Plasma Science and Technology (NCPST) based at DCU is the Irish National Research Centre for plasma related research. It is a multidisciplinary centre bringing together scientists and engineers to address both fundamental and applied question relating to the advancement and development of plasma related research for the benefit of both industry and society locally and internationally.

The Centre in collaboration with many national and international partners focuses on:
- Nanoscience, Photonics and Materials
- Mathematical and Computational Modelling
- Sources, Diagnostics and Measurement
- Astrophysics
- Sustainable Energies from Plasmas

Tel: +353 (0)1 7005382
Email: ncpst@dcu.ie
Web: www.ncpst.ie
National Centre for Sensor Research (NCSR)

The National Centre for Sensor Research (NCSR), DCU, is focused on developing future sensing technologies for economic and societal benefit for application in personal health monitoring and diagnostics, environmental monitoring, (bio) process optimization and nano/bio-medicine.

NCSR has prioritised research in the areas of:
- Fundamental Materials Science: Nano-Micro-Bio Materials Convergence
- Environment (Monitoring) Technologies
- Nanomedicine

Tel: +353 (0)1 7008821
Email: ncsr@dcu.ie
Web: www.dcu.ie/~ncsr

National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT)

The National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT), funded by IDA Ireland, is one of Ireland’s largest investments in scientific research and training and is designed to support the emerging biopharmaceutical sector. The facility located on the UCD campus will provide large scale bioprocessors operated to GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) to aid in the development of new technologies and provide hands-on experience for trainees. The research programmes are targeting technological challenges in bioprocessing, including protein characterisation and downstream processing. NIBRT works closely with a number of industry partners in the biopharma and technology development sectors.

Key areas of research:
- Protein expression systems and cell biology
- Post translational modification and biopharmaceutical drug design
- Upstream processing
- Downstream processing and formulation
- Product Analytics

Tel: +353 (0)1 7161946
Email: info@nibrt.ie
Web: www.nibrt.ie
National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology (NICB)

The National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology (NICB) at DCU is a multidisciplinary centre of research in fundamental and applied Cellular Biotechnology, Molecular Cell Biology, Ocular diseases and Biological Chemistry. It includes a multidisciplinary team of Cell and Molecular Biologists, Biotechnologists, Chemists and Computer scientists.

Research programmes include:
• Cancer Pharmacology
• Translational Breast Cancer & Melanoma
• Multiple Myeloma Research
• Monoclonal Antibodies to Study Cancer
• Pancreatic Cancer Research
• Brain Cancer Research
• Serum Biomarkers for Cancer
• Pancreatic Islet Research
• Drug Resistant Lung Cancer
• Corneal / Limbal / Stem Cell Research
• Cell & Molecular Biology Underlying Cellular Systems for Biopharmaceutical Production
• Viral Research Laboratory
• Ovarian Cancer Research

Tel: +353 (0)1 7005700
Email: nicb@dcu.ie
Web: www.nicb.dcu.ie

Netwell Centre

The Netwell Centre based at the Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT) is developing new ideas that enhance the quality of life and well-being of older people and those who care for them, through more integrated community-oriented services, more sustainable home and neighbourhood design, and more age-friendly technologies.

Tel: +353 (0)42 9370497
Email: Andrew.Macfarlane@netwellcentre.org
Web: www.netwellcentre.org
Network of Excellence in Functional Biomaterials (NFB)

The SFI funded Network of Excellence for Functional Biomaterials (NFB) is based at a purpose built biomaterials research facility in the IDA Business Park in Galway. The interdisciplinary group includes 40 engineers, scientists and clinicians from 14 different countries. This is one of the larger biomaterials group by international standards and is ideally located to interface with Galway’s wealth of medical device companies. The NFB focuses on servicing the R&D needs of multi-national companies, SMEs and start-up companies alike and has the desire, capacity and experience to deliver across this spectrum in the medical device, pharmaceutical and diagnostics sectors.

NFB’s main services for the industry include:
• Development of unique biomaterial platform technologies
• Adding value to existing platforms
• Development of custom-made biomaterials
• Trouble-shooting biomaterial based issues in medical devices;
• In vitro/in vivo studies
• Developing biomaterials for drug delivery

Tel: +353 (0)91 495833
Email: info@nfb.ie
Web: www.nfb.ie

Pharmaceutical and Molecular Biotechnology Research Centre (PMBRC)

The Pharmaceutical and Molecular Biotechnology Research Centre (PMBRC) at the Waterford Institute Technology will generate a stimulus for innovation, new ideas and technology transfer for the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industries based in the South East of Ireland. The two research themes to be undertaken by PMBRC are Drug Delivery Technologies & Development of Novel Process Technologies.

Tel: +353 (0)51 306167
Email: noreilly@wit.ie
Web: www.wit.ie/pmbrc

Precision – Plasma Technology for Nano Manufacturing

The DCU led Precision is a Strategic Research Cluster supported by Science Foundation Ireland and Industrial partners. The Cluster is hosted by the National Centre for Plasma Science and Technology (NCPST), the Research Institute for Networks and Communications Engineering (RINCE) at Dublin City University and the Surface Engineering Group at University College Dublin. The Cluster aims to develop the scientific and technological knowledge needed for present and future manufacturing applications using plasmas, with a specific emphasis on nano-scale products, process reliability, manufacturing costs and advanced materials processing.

Tel: +353 (0)1 7007635
Email: precision@dcu.ie
Web: www.ncpst.ie/precision
Regenerative Medicine Institute (REMEDI)

The Regenerative Medicine Institute (REMEDI) is a world-class biomedical research centre, housed at the National Centre for Biomedical Engineering Science (NCBES) at NUI Galway, with a primary goal of studying stem cell biology and translating these findings to new regenerative therapies for human disease.

Also operated by REMEDI is the National Stem Cell Manufacturing Facility (NSCMF), which is a purpose-built Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) clean room facility for the production of cellular and gene therapy agents for clinical use. The facility encompasses a working floor space of approximately 250 M2 and possesses two equipped production suites comprising of three processing rooms (Preparation Room, Downstream Process Room, and Filling Room) for various stages of cell isolation and culturing.

REMEDI has access to a large range of facilities and equipment including Microscopy, Tissue Culture Laboratories, DNA Analysis Lab Equipment, Protein/Vector Analysis Equipment and Histology Laboratory.

Tel: +353 (0)91 495166
Email: info@remedi.ie
Web: www.nuigalway.ie/remedi

Regulated Software Research Group (RSRG)

This research is focused upon the development of an international software process improvement (SPI) framework for the medical device industry as a key enabler of best practice for the sector.

The RSRG undertakes a multi-faceted approach to establishing this framework including the examination of best practice from other safety-critical domains, determining how successfully best practice SPI models can be mapped onto regulatory frameworks and, through close liaison with the medical device sector, using empirical studies of industrial practice to inform theory. Therefore, the key research questions, which the RSRG address include:

What software processes are currently being used by medical device software producers?

What lessons can be transferred from software producers in other safety-critical domains operating under different regulatory regimes?

Can best practice software development be used successfully within the medical device sector?

What form should an SPI framework for the medical device sector take?

In addressing these questions, the RSRG adopt a range of quantitative and qualitative research methodologies including experiments, quantitative analysis of data sets, case studies, ethnomethodology, action research and grounded theory to provide a rich analysis of the domain.

Tel: +353 (0)42 9370522
Email: fergal.mccaffery@dkit.ie
Web: www2.dkit.ie/research/rsrg
Reproductive Biology Research Cluster

The SFI funded Reproductive Biology Research Cluster comprises a group of scientists from UCD and Teagasc whose research interests focus on fertility in domestic animals using cutting edge technologies, established animal models, in vitro tissue culture and bioinformatic tools for the analysis of reproductive tissues (follicles, oocytes, embryos, uterus). The knowledge generated will provide opportunities to develop new diagnostics and therapeutics to improve reproductive efficiency in cattle, in the short term, and other mammalian species in the longer term. This research takes place at UCD’s Belfield Campus and Lyons Research Farm and at Teagasc’s research centres at Moorepark and Athenry.

Tel: +353 (0)1 7166258
Email: reproduction@ucd.ie
Web: www.ucd.ie/agfoodvet/reproductive_biology.htm

School of Agriculture, Food Science & Veterinary Medicine UCD

The mission of the School is to develop and apply science and engineering scholarship to problems in animal health and welfare, human health, food systems and agriculture for the benefit of society through excellence in teaching and research. The School supports the indigenous agri-food and animal health industries in Ireland by educating students to become industry leaders and by conducting world class, cutting edge research. The School is a centre of expertise in the sciences underpinning the safety of the food chain, food quality, animal health and welfare and public health. Research and education in companion and sport animal health and welfare are also an important part of the mission. Also, the University Veterinary Hospital (UVH) is located within the Veterinary Sciences Centre in the School of Agriculture, Food Science & Veterinary Medicine.

Tel:  +353 (0) 17166100
Email: agfoodvet@ucd.ie
Web: www.ucd.ie/agfoodvet/index.html

School of Chemical Sciences (DCU)

The research in the School is very wide-ranging; it includes environmental and analytical chemistry, combinatorial synthesis, nanotechnology, photochemistry and spectroscopy. This work is undertaken in modern laboratories using a collection of state-of-the-art instruments. Members of staff work in close collaboration with the centres of excellence based at DCU, in particular the following:
• National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology (NICB)
• National Centre for Sensor Research (NCSR)
• Centre for Bioanalytical Sciences (CBAS)
• Biomedical Diagnostics Institute (BDI)
• Adaptive Information Cluster (Clarity - The Centre for Sensor Web Technologies)

Tel: +353 (0)1 7008001
Email: julie.mcarthur@dcu.ie
Web: www.dcu.ie/chemistry/research_groups.shtml
**School of Chemistry & Chemical Biology (UCD)**

A wide range of research projects spanning the whole of Chemistry from chemical physics to chemical biology takes place in the School of Chemistry & Chemical Biology (UCD).

The research is carried out in well equipped laboratories in the Chemistry building. The School has excellent research instrumentation. Highlights include five high field NMR spectrometers (300 to 600 MHz), excellent mass spectrometers, and a modern X-ray diffractometer. Details of our laboratories and instrumentation are provided in the research facilities page.

Tel: +353 (0)1 7162881  
Email: chemistry@ucd.ie  
Web: www.ucd.ie/chem/research.htm

**School of Chemistry (NUIG)**

The major research interests are: Materials and Molecules with Biomedical Applications, Development of new drugs and innovative drug delivery systems, Developing the fuels and green chemistry of the future, Bioanalytical Chemistry, Biologically important methods of chemical analysis (CBAS), Chemical Synthesis, Structure and Reaction Mechanism, Synthesising new molecules, unravelling structure and mechanism

Tel: +353 (0)91 492460  
E-mail: karen.kelly@nuigalway.ie  
Web: www.nuigalway.ie/chemistry

**School of Chemistry (NUIM)**


Tel: +353 (0)1 7083770  
Email: chemistry.department@nuim.ie  
Web: www.chemistry.nuim.ie/researchgroups.htm
School of Chemistry (TCD)

The Chemistry Department has an active research program which spans all sub-disciplines of Chemistry. Research topics include Organic Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry and Theoretical and Computational Chemistry. There is a great deal of overlap between these sections.

Tel: +353 (0)1 8962040  
Email: galvinji@tcd.ie  
Web: www.tcd.ie/Chemistry/research/

School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (TCD)

The School has gained national and international recognition for its cutting edge research. It major research areas include the following fields: Advanced Drug Delivery Allergy, Clinical Pharmacokinetics, Drug Design and Discovery, Drug Targeting and Transport, Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, Pharmaceutical Nanoscience, Natural Products, Neuropharmacology, Pharmacy Practice Platelets

Tel: +353 (0)1 8962809  
Email: pharmtec@tcd.ie  
Web: www.pharmacy.tcd.ie/research/

Shannon Applied Biotechnology Centre (SABC)

A collaborative Enterprise Ireland-funded Applied Research Enhancement (ARE) centre, Tralee Institute of Technology and Limerick Institute of Technology, combines research strengths in natural product utilisation, bioactivity screening, fermentation, mammalian cell culture and bio-processing. SABC develops innovative products and ingredients from natural resources using novel processes to obtain value added food products, food flavours and medicinal products. These products will be used to create, enhance or add value to existing products in the food, healthcare and developing nutraceutical industries.

Tel: +353 (0)66 7144217  
Email: benjamin.bradley@staff.ittralee.ie  
Web: www.shannonabc.com
Solid State Pharmaceuticals Cluster (SSPC)

The Solid State Pharmaceutical cluster (SSPC) is an Irish Government funded research collaboration of academia and industry in the area of pharmaceutical crystallisation. Five of Ireland’s top universities and ten of the world’s top multinational pharmaceutical companies have come together to carry out industry informed research in an area of significant interest to the sector. Bringing together the disciplines of chemistry, chemical engineering, PAT, pharmaceutics, analytics and physical property science under one umbrella and working with industry leaders a ‘live’ community of practice has been established. Unprecedented collaboration; inter academia, academia: industry, inter industry, has begun in areas such as polymorphism, continuous crystallisation, particle engineering and primary and secondary manufacturing links.

Some of the key deliverables of the SSPC in its short existence have been:
- State of the art equipment in academia for research and collaboration
- Relevant fundamental training to industry in the area
- Student PhD placements within industrial partners
- Qualified informed PhD students for industrial employment
- ‘Best Practice’ web portal designed and populated by all partners in the area of API manufacture from solvent selection to pre-formulation considerations

SSPC Academic members include University of Limerick, (Physical property science and modelling/CFD) National University of Ireland Galway, (Analytical Chemistry), University College Dublin (Chemical Engineering and PAT), Trinity College Dublin (Pharmaceutics), University College Cork (Organic Chemistry/Pharmaceutics).

Industrial Partners: Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Pfizer, GSK, Eli Lilly, Merck Sharp and Dohme, Schering Plough, Roche, Clarochem Ireland, Covidien, Hovione

Tel: +353 (0)61 234629
Email: jon.ohalloran@ul.ie
Web: www.ul.ie/sspc

South Eastern Applied Materials (SEAM)

The objective of South Eastern Applied Materials (SEAM) is to establish an industry led and industry responsive applied research centre providing innovative materials engineering solutions for partner companies in the South East and on a national basis. The centre provides non-destructive materials characterisation and materials process development technologies for companies from sectors such as Bio-medical devices, Micro-electronics & Precision Engineering.

Tel: +353 (0)51 845648
Email: rraghavendra@wit.ie
Web: www.wit.ie/seam
Surface Engineering Group

The Surface Engineering Group in UCD carries out research on the use of plasma techniques to modify the surface of polymers, ceramics and metals. Dr Denis Dowling set up the Surface Engineering research group at Enterprise Ireland in 1990. He transferred this activity to UCD in 2004 where it has expanded substantially. The group has a range of equipment for the deposition of coatings including: Physical Vapour Deposition (PVD) Systems Plasma Enhanced Chemical Vapour Deposition (PECVD) Systems (both low pressure and atmospheric plasma systems). The plasmas used to deposit coatings can be generated using magnetron, hollow cathode, atom beam, rf, DC, microwave and HYBRID sources. Amongst the coatings deposited using these sources are diamond, DLC, TiN, TiCN, Ti-DLC, Cr-DLC, siloxane, MoST TM and Graphite-iC TM carbon. The coating is selected according to the application requirements of the end user.

Tel: +353 (0)1 7161747
Email: denis.dowling@ucd.ie
Web: www.ucd.ie/surfaces

Systems Biology Ireland (SBI)

The Systems Biology Ireland (SBI), based on the Belfield campus of UCD, is a new research initiative between University College Dublin (UCD) and the National University of Ireland, Galway (NUI, Galway). Established in 2009 through combined SFI Centre for Science Engineering and Technology (CSET) and industrial funding, SBI sets out to become a national centre for excellence in systems biology research. The initial focus within the area of biotherapeutics will be the signalling networks that make cell fate decisions and govern stem cell function towards improving the biomedical application of stem cells. SBI will harness this knowledge to develop novel approaches for drug target identification, personalised medicine and toxicity profiles.

Tel: +353 (0)1 7166975
Email: systemsbiology@ucd.ie
Web: www.ucd.ie/sbi

Targeted Therapeutics & Theranostics

The International Centre for Neurotherapeutics, in conjunction with the Schools of Biotechnology & Chemical Sciences and the Biomedical Diagnostic Institute at Dublin City University was awarded funding for a 4-year integrated and focused Ph.D. research and training programme in Target-driven Therapeutic and Theranostics. This programme is financed by the Higher Education Authority as part of a National Graduate Training Programme in Biopharmaceuticals and Pharmacological Sciences in partnership with University College Dublin, University College Cork, Trinity College Dublin and Queens University Belfast.

Tel: +353 (0)1 7007347
Email: neal.lemon@dcu.ie
Web: www.dcu.ie/t3/overview.shtml
Technology Research for Independent Living (TRIL)

The Technology Research for Independent Living (TRIL) Centre at UCD brings together world-class industry and academic experts who are inventing and testing new technologies with older people, and their families, to support them in continuing to live independently. The TRIL Centre will focus on three key areas: improving social health and community engagement for older people, detecting and preventing falls in the home, and helping those with memory loss to maintain their independence.

Key areas of research include:
- Ethnography
- Falls Prevention
- Cognitive Function
- Social Connection
- Technology Platform

Tel: +353 (0)1 7165306
Email: info@trilcentre.org
Web: www.trilcentre.org

Tyndall National Institute

The Tyndall National Institute offers a wide range of services to both indigenous and multinational industries based in Ireland and overseas. Furthermore, it offers turnkey development of new products and processes.

The services are available to large companies and to small and medium size enterprises across the industrial spectrum. In serving industry with new technologies, the Tyndall customers gain the ability to improve their current products and processes and also to develop new ones for the future.

The strengths of the institute lie in the area of photonics, electronics, materials and nanotechnologies and their applications for life sciences, communications, power electronics and other industries. Research programmes range from theoretical modelling and design to novel material, nanotechnology, device processing and fabrication, packaging and integration; and novel systems incorporating these new devices.


Tel: +353 (0)21 4904177
Email: info@tyndall.ie
Web: www.tyndall.ie/industry/index.html
GLOSSARY

**Funding Agencies/Stakeholder**
Enterprise Ireland (EI)
Health Research Board (HRB)
Health Service Executive (HSE)
Higher Education Authority (HEA)
Industry Development Agency (IDA Ireland)
Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions (PRTLI)
Science Foundation Ireland (SFI)

**Research Institutions**
Athlone Institute of Technology (Athlone IT)
Cork Institute of Technology (Cork IT)
Dublin City University (DCU)
Dublin Institute of Technology (Dublin IT)
Dundalk Institute of Technology (Dundalk IT)
Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology (Galway-Mayo IT)
Institute of Technology Blanchardstown (IT Blanchardstown)
Institute of Technology Carlow (IT Carlow)
Institute of Technology Sligo (IT Sligo)
Institute of Technology Tallaght (IT Tallaght)
Institute of Technology Tralee (IT Tralee)
Letterkenny Institute of Technology (Letterkenny IT)
Limerick Institute of Technology (Limerick IT)
National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG)
National University of Ireland Maynooth (NUIM)
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI)
Teagasc
Trinity College Dublin (TCD)
University College Cork (UCC)
University College Dublin (UCD)
University of Limerick (UL)
Waterford Institute of Technology (Waterford IT)

**Research Centres, Clusters, Institutes, Networks, Facilities and Groups**
Alimentary Glycoscience Research Cluster (AGRC)
Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre (APC)
All Ireland Cooperative Oncology Research Group (ICORG)
Analytical & Biological Chemistry Research Facility (ABCRF)
Atlantic Centre for Atomistic Modelling (ACAM)
Atlantic Centre for Atomistic Modelling (ACAM)
Biomedical Diagnostics Institute (BDI)
Biosciences Institute (BSI)
Biosciences Research Institute (BRI)
Biosciences Research Institute (BRI)
Centre for Advanced Photonics and Process Analysis (CAPPA)
Centre for Affective Software for Ambient Living Awareness (CASALA)
Centre for Applied Biomedical Engineering Research (CABER)
Centre for Applied Nanotechnology (CCAN)
Centre for Bioanalytical Sciences (CBAS)
Centre for BioNano Interactions (CBNI)
Centre for Pain Research (CPR)
Centre for Research in Engineering Surface Technology (CREST)
Centre for Research in Vascular Biology (CRVB)
Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices (CRANN)
Centre for Scientific Computing and Complex Systems Modelling (SciSym)
Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology (CSCB)
Centre of Applied Marine Biotechnology (CAMBio)
Clinical Research Facility (CRF)
Complex and Adaptive Systems Laboratory (CASL)
Conway Institute of Biomolecular & Biomedical Research (Conway Institute)
Cork Cancer Research Centre (CCRC)
Dublin Centre for Clinical Research (DCCR)
Immunology Research Centre (IRC)
Institute for Networks and Communications Engineering (RINCE)
Integrated Nanoscience Platform for Ireland (INSPIRE)
International Centre for Neurotherapeutics (ICNT)
Ion channel biotechnology centre (ICBC)
Ion Channel Biotechnology Centre (ICBC)
Irish Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (ICRIN)
Irish Drug Delivery Network (IDDN)
Macular Pigment Research Group (MPRG)
Materials and Surface Science Institute (MSSI)
Materials Research Institute (MRI)
Medical Engineering Design and Innovation Centre (MEDIC)
Micro Sensors for Clinical Analysis (MICRA)
Molecular Diagnostics Research Group (MDRG)
Molecular Medicine Ireland (MMI)
Molecular Therapeutics for Cancer Ireland (MTCI)
Nano Imaging and Material Analysis Centre (NIMAC)
National Biophotonics and Imaging Platform (NBIP)
National Centre for Biomedical Engineering Science (NCBES)
National Centre for Laser Applications (NCLA)
National Centre for Plasma Science and Technology (NCPST)
National Centre for Sensor Research (NCSR)
National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT)
National Institute for Cellular Biotechnology (NICB)
Network of Excellence in Functional Biomaterials (NFB)
National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT)
Pharmaceutical and Molecular Biotechnology Research Centre (PMBRC)
Processing Research Centre (MPRC)
Regenerative Medicine Institute (REMEDi)
Regulated Software Research Group (RSRG)
Shannon Applied Biotechnology Centre (SABC)
Surface Engineering Group
Systems Biology Ireland (SBI),
Technology Research for Independent Living (TRIL)
The IRISH LIFE SCIENCES Research Guide

This guide is a collation of Life Sciences research capability within Ireland’s third level institutions. It will enable you to identify and engage with research experts relevant to your needs.