



Research Committee

Knowledge Exchange and Impact Sub-Committee

## **Oxford University Innovation Working Group**

### **Background**

The University of Oxford wishes to ensure that we are effectively and comprehensively making use of our intellectual property for national, international and institutional benefit. The outcomes of research can often be of benefit to the wider world beyond the academy. The University recognises its responsibility to efficiently and effectively maximize these benefits. This will in turn benefit the University in both financial and reputational terms, and help to create an environment that will continue to attract the best and most creative students, academics and researchers from around the world. We aim to be a global leader in knowledge exchange.<sup>1</sup>

The Working Group will assess the degree to which Oxford is achieving these aspirations, incl. by comparison with the best practice in the world (and in particular successful models in the UK and USA which have similar university systems and economies). Are we being sufficiently ambitious at Oxford? Do we have the right facilitating structure(s) in place? Are there exciting new approaches we should take?

The Working Group will help construct an Innovation Strategy that defines an over-arching plan for action and can be used to identify key goals and priorities for the allocation of resources.

As one element of its deliberations, the Working Group will consider two specific questions referred by the Planning and Resources Allocation Committee (PRAC), viz.

- whether there is scope to undertake more technology transfer activities leading to new or improved means to utilise intellectual property or expertise across the University
- whether there should be any changes in this context and in the wider context of Oxford's ambitions in knowledge exchange and wider engagement, to the role of Isis Innovation Ltd and/or in the funding and business model for Isis.

### **Reporting Lines**

The Group will report to the Knowledge Exchange and Impact Sub-Committee (KEISC), Research Committee and Planning and Resources Allocation Committee (PRAC) in Trinity Term 2014.

## Membership

Chair	Professor Ian Walmsley, PVC (Research, Academic Services and University Collections)
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One member of each Academic Division, appointed by the PVC(R) in consultation with the Heads of Divisions

Humanities Division	1 Professor Shearer West 2 Dr Martin Conway (alt)
Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division	1 Professor Patrick Grant 2 Professor Peter Grindrod (alt)
Medical Sciences Division	1 Professor Matthew Wood 2 Professor Keith Channon (alt)
Social Sciences Division	1 Professor Peter Tufano

A member of the Knowledge Exchange and Impact Sub Committee of Research Committee, appointed by the PVC(R)	Professor Chas Bountra
One of the Conference of Colleges' representatives on the Research Committee	Professor Richard Carwadine

Up to four external members, appointed by the PVC(R) in consultation with the Heads of Divisions

Dr Tom Baer, Executive Director of the Stanford Photonics Research Centre at Stanford University and co-founder of Arcturus Bioscience, Inc. Dr Alison Campbell, Director of Technology Transfer, Ireland Professor Richard McCullough, Vice Provost for Research, Harvard University Dr David Secher, Senior Bursar, Life Fellow, Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge
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## Secretariat

Dr Glenn Swafford, Research Services (principal contact)  
Ms Judith Finch, PRAS

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<sup>i</sup> *The University Strategic Plan 2013-2018* features a strong commitment to 'Wider Engagement' as one of three over-arching academic objectives alongside 'Research' and 'Education.' The Plan observes that 'Enterprise and innovation are fundamental to Oxford's continuing research success' and includes commitments to 'foster creative, entrepreneurial activity by our staff and students', 'stimulate collaboration with research users to increase uptake of research outputs', 'inform and advise a wide range of organisations' and promote 'more interaction with business and industry, including through continuing professional development, collaborative research, translational activities, consulting, licensing, spin-out companies, and commercial ventures.'