The research commercialisation office of the University of Oxford, previously called **Isis Innovation**, has been renamed **Oxford University Innovation**

All documents and other materials will be updated accordingly. In the meantime the remaining content of this Isis Innovation document is still valid.

URLs beginning www.isis-innovation.com/... are automatically redirected to our new domain, www.innovation.ox.ac.uk/...

Phone numbers and email addresses for individual members of staff are unchanged

Email : enquiries@innovation.ox.ac.uk

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

ISIS INNOVATION

The Oxford Invention Fund

Report and Update, 2013

OPPORTUNITIES TO INVEST IN OXFORD UNIVERSITY INNOVATIONS & ENTERPRISE

Introduction

The Oxford Invention Fund (OIF) represents an opportunity for donors to the University to support innovation and enterprise initiated at Oxford, and to see a return to the University from successful new business ventures.

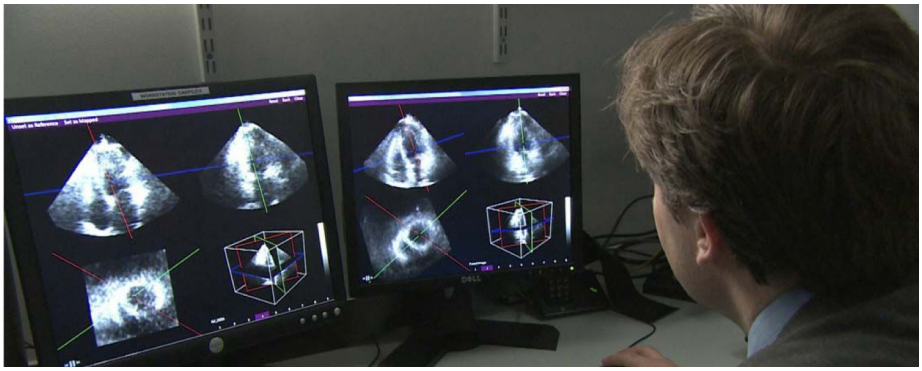
The OIF supports research and infrastructure in the University, deriving investment from industry, the finance sector and private individuals. The £1.5 million attracted by the Fund since its inception in 2010 has enabled the progression of some of the most exciting innovations conceived at the University, including glasses for the seriously sight-impaired and software to improve the diagnostic power of ultrasound scanning. The Fund is managed on behalf of the University by Isis Innovation Ltd, its wholly owned technology transfer company.

By enabling a commercial route to market for the outstanding range and scope of inventions and innovation from the University, donors play a vital role in ensuring that society globally benefits from academic research in Oxford. *Details on how to donate can be found on the back page of this publication.*

At the time of writing the OIF has committed £800,000 – 53 percent – of its funds to 15 Oxford projects. The Fund has an asset portfolio of £353,000 as a result of investing in these projects.

Success case study: Intelligent Ultrasound

The imaging software being developed by Intelligent Ultrasound, backed by OIF investment in 2012, is set to make a major commercial and societal impact in the coming years. OIF money enabled the newly formed company to sharpen the definition of the images produced by its ultrasound tool.



"We expect Intelligent Ultrasound software will save the NHS £40 million per year."

Andy Hill, CEO Intelligent Ultrasound

PROJECTS BACKED BY THE OXFORD INVENTION FUND IN 2013

Diverse technologies, eclectic impacts

The OIF has supported innovations from across the University's Departments in 2013 but a common theme is clear, each has potential to address a major global demand.

Malaria biomarker

£34,206 has been allocated to validating and progressing a new biomarker identified in patients with severe malaria. Light microscopy is not needed to visualise the biomarker so the breakthough at the Nuffield Department of Medicine offers a low-cost alternative to existing malaria diagnostics.

Above: *Plasmodium* parasites account for over 650,000 deaths per year, primarily African children; A new malaria biomarker identified by Dr Climent Casals-Pascual and funded by the OIF will be in demand on the continent.

Improving battery charge

Professor Patrick Grant, of Oxford's Department of Materials, received investment to provide a proof of principle demonstration of the manufacturing and advantages of graded porosity electrodes for Lithium ion batteries and related electrochemical storage devices. £44,600 was awarded.

Fuel cell start-up energy

The Fund allocated £42,162 to the development of Professor Peter Edwards' research into microwave assisted fuel cells. The technology resonates in the context of pursuing a sustainable and secure energy future.

Below: Fuel cells can be harnessed to power vehicles and electronic devices; Professor Edwards' research will lead to cheaper construction materials for producing fuel cells.

Drug discovery

The largest investment out of the Fund this year was £78,877, which went to the development of Professor Carol Robinson's mass spectrometry based approach to the discovery of new drugs for existing and new drug targets. Pfizer, Elli Lilly, Genentech and other major pharmaceutical companies have declared interest.

Managing lung condititons

A laser-based device that can be linked to a bronchoscope has been developed by Dr Grant Ritchie and Professor Gus Hancock. The project team has been awarded £47,821 for the development and initial clinical testing of a prototype. Current bronchoscope technology is unable to measure gas exchange in particular lung regions and thus assess lung function.

REASONS FOR DONATING AND DETAILS OF HOW TO DONATE

Funding

We continue to strive toward our target of £5 million, to enable the translation of the most promising Oxford research to real-world clinical and commercial applications. Projects presented to the OIF can come from any area of the University's research activities, and it is anticipated that projects across all technology sectors will be supported over time.

Ongoing relationships

Oxford welcomes benefactors, and anticipates that their involvement in the OIF will lead to a lasting relationship with the University, the entrepreneurial companies launched by the Fund and also with like-minded supporters, alumni and the University's dedicated researchers.

This fund is an essential constituent part of the Oxford Thinking Campaign to ensure the continued success of Isis Innovation in delivering commercial and societal benefit from University research. Please consider joining the visionary benefactors who are already taking part in this philanthropic venture.

Online donation

An online donation facility to the OIF is available at: www.giving.ox.ac.uk/oxford_invention_fund

Oxford Invention Fund donor contact details

Donors are invited to contact Seed Investment Manager Andrea Alunni at Isis Innovation via:

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