

# Welcome...

The University of Ulster continues to build on its reputation for providing knowledge-based business solutions to companies throughout Northern Ireland and beyond.



**Tim Brundle,**  
Director of Innovation

The University makes a significant contribution to the knowledge economy in Northern Ireland, spending approximately £1 million each week to support research.

Since the last edition of U2B, the University's research has been lauded as a result of its performance in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise. In that assessment, it was determined that 86% of research activity was of international quality while 20% was deemed to be world-leading.

The results confirm the breadth and depth of research excellence in each of the University's six faculties and four campuses – and the University's position in the top third of UK Universities.

The development of the unique C-TRIC facility with the Western

Health and Social Care Trust and Derry City Council (featured below), highlights the innovative partnership approach that Ulster takes to using its research capacity to enhance the environment for economic development throughout the region.

The activities featured in this edition of U2B illustrate the reach of Ulster's expertise, in areas as diverse as waste compliance to market analysis, and highlight our range of resources such as the prototyping and product testing facilities at our Magee campus and our £5.5 million fire safety engineering research centre at Jordanstown.

I would encourage anyone who would like to find out more about any of the stories featured, or who is keen to engage with the University to

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**Front cover picture:** From left: Professor Richard Barnett, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ulster; Professor Maurice O'Kane, Head of Research and Development, Western Health and Social Care Trust and Chief Executive of C-TRIC; and Alastair Hamilton Chief Executive, Invest NI at the launch of C-TRIC (see story below).

see how it might help their business, to contact our Business Liaison Office on (028) 9036 8019 or email enquiry@ulster.ac.uk

**Tim Brundle**  
Director of Innovation

## Just the C-TRIC

### Business Profile

**WHO:**  
Barry Henderson, business development manager, C-TRIC

**EDUCATION:**  
BSc Bacteriology and Virology; MSc Molecular Pathology

**CAREER:**  
Barry began his career in biomedical research before working in a technical sales role in the biotechnology industry. Prior to his appointment as business development manager at C-TRIC, he

held a variety of posts within the University's Office of Innovation. He is also a named inventor on four patent applications

**LINKS WITH ULSTER:**  
Barry began working as a research technician in 1994 for the Diabetes Research Group at Ulster and after four years in industry, returned to Ulster to work with the Office of Innovation.

**Invest NI's new Chief Executive, Alastair Hamilton, recently opened the £2million Clinical Translational Research and Innovation Centre (C-TRIC). The Centre, located on the Western Health and Social Care Trust's Altnagelvin hospital site, will act as a flagship for attracting investment through research and innovation in healthcare to the North West region. The 9,000 sq ft facility is jointly operated and supported by Invest NI, the Western Trust, Derry City Council and the University of Ulster.**

C-TRIC is already a success as six start-up firms and a major University health project are set to move into the centre. Four of these are medical device companies, one is a diagnostics firm and one a software venture. Their activities focus on cardiac devices, respiratory health, wound management and deep-cleansing technologies aimed at reducing hospital-acquired infections.

The attraction of this cluster of businesses and a research initiative into osteoporosis and other chronic diseases of ageing,

represents rapid development for C-TRIC. As an incubation venture, the facility will nurture new business ideas by providing rental workspace, top range laboratory facilities and world-class facilities for research and development in the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and healthcare sectors.

Professor Richard Barnett, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ulster said: "C-TRIC gives the North-West a head start in the fast moving world of healthcare technologies by providing small businesses with back-up to

develop, as well as facilitating academic researchers, clinical practitioners and industry. Healthcare breakthroughs can be made locally and these may have a global impact. C-TRIC is here to help innovators in healthcare develop their ideas."

**For further information on C-TRIC, contact Barry Henderson, telephone (028) 7161 1249 or email bp.henderson@c-tric.com**

