




CABE is now part of the Design Council

January 2012



## Ulster Teams Up With Design Council

 Ulster is teaming up with the Design Council in a bid to boost the commercial potential of technologies developed at the University.

The Office of Innovation will partner with Design Associates under the Design Council's 'Innovate for Universities' mentoring programme. Under the programme, strategic design and innovation tools are used to accelerate the commercialisation of universities' research projects.

Tim Brundle, Director of Innovation at Ulster, explained: "The University has a long and successful heritage of creating value from research. Our award-winning technology commercialisation provides considerable value to the economy and we are thrilled to embark on a new relationship with the Design Council that will integrate design at the outset of projects".

'Innovate for Universities' has been specifically developed by the Design Council to mentor technology transfer teams at universities. It is believed this user-centred approach to technology development will increase Ulster's success rates with competitive funding applications, improve collaboration within teams and provide new skills and ways of working.

Ulster Business Supplement

### Welcome...

I am pleased to report that 2011 was the University of Ulster's greatest year for innovation.

We spun out four new companies, completed eleven investments, leveraged over £5m of international venture capital into our spinouts, licensed seven patent families and increased our consultancy output to over £3m. I am grateful to my colleagues for their achievements, and to our customers and investors for their support.

In particular, I would like to congratulate Professor Jim McLaughlin who has been honoured in the New Year Honours List for 2012. The distinguished international physicist receives an OBE for his services to research and economic development in Northern Ireland. During the past year, we continued to make waves on both sides of the Atlantic, most recently with Intelesens, an Ulster spinout that has benefitted from Professor McLaughlin's support as Chief Scientific Officer.

In the UK, the University's leading position in the design sector was reaffirmed through our success in the Design Council's "Innovate for Universities" competition, which provides support to ensure the University's

intellectual assets are developed with the market in mind. In Northern Ireland our expertise, ranging from Radio Frequency Identification, data analytics and Health Sciences, continues to impact on the product and service portfolios

of local business, leading to growth and increased profitability.

In 2012 we would like to go further and open up even more of our knowledge to business. I was delighted to launch our new Open Innovation initiative OpenUlster ([www.openulster.com](http://www.openulster.com)) recently at the Northern Ireland Science Park, which aims to put more of our technologies into the hands of entrepreneurs. The website has attracted a great level of interest and will continue to post new Ulster inventions accessible to you.

We are always keen to hear from you, and learn how we can continue to provide support to ensure that your businesses grow.

Finally, we would like to thank the Department for Employment and Learning Connected Project for their generous sponsorship of this edition of U2B.

**Tim Brundle**  
Director of Innovation

