About the Innovation Centre

The Innovation Centre Sunshine Coast is the University of the Sunshine Coast’s business incubator. We have helped over 120 businesses in the digital, clean technology, e-health and professional services sectors since we began in 2002. We specialise in business development, mentoring and low cost, low risk office space.

We help emerging, innovative businesses:

- Develop the business model
- Commercialise intellectual property
- Source national and international partners
- Access funding and investment

Commercialisation Opportunities:

The Pilot of Knowledge@USC

Knowledge@USC is a proposed program developed by IC for USC, which increases the university’s ability to scope, manage and complete specific commercialisation projects. The Knowledge@USC program complements the existing activities of the Office of Research, and would ultimately provide a one stop shop for specialised advice and capabilities. The program would have a focus on matching specific industry requirements with USC knowledge, expertise and facilities.

While still in the development stages, IC has completed a number of projects as part of the Knowledge@USC’s pilot trial and testing phase. These projects have provided researchers and industry with commercialisation solutions, increased partnerships and developed new pathways to market.

Further information on Knowledge@USC will be made available at the completion of the pilot.

Case Study: Teacher Tracker

Commercialising USC research

During 2013 USC finalised a licence to USC Researcher Chris Dann for access to IP known as the Pre-service Teacher Tracker (PTT). A small pilot study was conducted using mobile devices to assist pre-service teacher assessors in the summative assessment process, and to address the formative assessment processes used for learning through the use of the PTT. Chris Dann through a commercial operation he is part owner of (3D Performance), is developing business relationships and scoping agreements with various training organisations, and is assisting USC to progress opportunities. 3D Performance has joined the IC as an Associate Member. Prior to this the IC provided analysis and reviews to the USC Office of Research regarding spinning out this opportunity and what terms would be reasonable for both parties. 3D is currently looking for investors and it is expected that industry sponsored projects will come through to USC due to the connection with IC and 3D.

Case Study: Queensland Functional Pavement Centre

A new USC commercial initiative

In March 2014, Knowledge@USC assisted with the development of a new entity that USC planned to establish for commercial aspects of pavement research. The USC FoSHEE has strong research capability in the area of pavements and well established industry linkages. The QFPC teaching and research component had been well mapped out however some of the commercial aspects required further work. Through Knowledge@USC, the Entrepreneur in Residence provided a scope of work including:

- Review of QFPC Proposal, business model and related material
- Workshop convened with stakeholders covering structure / entity options
- Preparation of material for the basis of a brief for legal advice to USC.

Case Study: Eastern Rock Lobster

A relationship with UTAS and a commercial partner

In November 2013 the IC EiR assisted with relationship management between USC and the University of Tasmania (UTAS) regarding a crucial relationship with commercial partner - Darden. Issues had arisen with USC publication potentially being blocked and uncertainty regarding commercialisation of IP. The IC EiR was asked to review terms and provide guidance for what would be reasonable terms for the parties involved. Work on this project continues.

Our Members Engage in Research

Aquila

Working with researchers to test the efficiency and accuracy of their next generation water meter technology.

Cavitus

Working with researchers to develop new high power ultrasound technologies for the palm oil, olive oil, dairy, soy and wine industries.

Coastwide DT

Provides real-world, real-time data to the Sunshine Coast Accident Research team for analysis.

EContent MGT

Develops web and traditional publishing platforms to increase distribution and readership of research.

PMS

Working with engineering researchers to improve road and pavement engineering processes and techniques.

NewNRG

Relying on scientific analysis to validate the outcomes and processes associated with their online platform for weight management.

Connect with the Innovation Centre

Connect with the Innovation Centre Entrepreneur in Residence, Dr Dean Alle, to talk further about research commercialisation opportunities.

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