Technology Transfer Office

Tech Trans Udvalget
Mandag d. 28. januar 2019
Research & Innovation

Tech Transfer Office
Karen Laigaard, Head of Office
- Evaluation, protection, commercialisation of research results/inventions (licensing to existing and new companies (spin-outs) for UCPH and Capital Region
- Negotiation of research collaboration agreements
- Management of Proof-of-Concept Fund

Research Support Office
Poul Schjørring, Head of Office
- Contact with industry and public organisations, innovation and entrepreneurship, support for KUFIR and KANFI, collaboration across faculties,
- EU-grant support (application, negotiation and administration of projects)
Tech Transfer Office

**Head of Office**

**Legal Team**
- 9 people
- Negotiate all IP research agreements at UCPH
- Work with Commercial Team on commercial deals

**IPR Management System (INTEUM)**
- 1 person

**Commercial Team**
- 9 people
- Evaluate and protect research results
- Commercialise inventions to existing and new companies (spin-outs) through licensing

**Admin**
- 2 people for F&I
UCPH focuses more on the transfer of knowledge than on income”

… but …
1. Attracting, developing and retaining academic talent
2. Education with closer ties to research and practice
3. Collaboration and societal commitment – nationally and globally
4. One unified and focused university

Faculty strategies and action plans feeding into University Strategy

TTO Strategy: “Hot Science, Cool Innovation”
Strengths

- Legal, Scientific, Commercial
- Delivers results
- Experienced Team
- Centralised TTO
- Flexible organisation

Weaknesses

- Lack of admin support
- Legal Team understaffed
- Not enough scouting
- Inefficient processes
- TTO Organisation
- Lack of resources

Opportunities

- Good reputation amongst researchers
- Potential for more invention disclosures
- Political Focus

Threats

- Bad reputation and myths
- “TTO focuses more on $ than on TT”
- Firefighting
- Conflicting internal interests: politics vs commercialisation
- Tasks vs resources
Incentives and Instruments

At UCPH

• Internal Proof-of-Concept Fund (€ 530K per year)
• “Innovation” part of annual performance review for scientific staff
• Innovation ambassadors appointed at departmental level
• Innovation Prize at UCPH Commemoration day

Outside UCPH

• No external innovation activities = hard to get research funding
• Novo Nordisk BioInnovation Institute
  • €52 million initiative
  • Investments in “Discovery, Transition, Incubation and Growth”

• Innovation Fund Denmark
  • InnoExplorer – new PoC instrument
Issues

• Money for universities to do research and teaching
  • None for knowledge transfer = makes it difficult to grow
• Is it clear to all universities why they have TTOs?
• Criticism of TTOs, rarely of TTOs owners
  • TTOs are not (should not be) isolated islands
• In the UK we are called “KT Professionals” – what are you called?
• Innovation systems tend to be complicated
  • mushrooming, too many players, too expensive, too complicated for the users
• Hard for spin-outs to get hold of serious money
  • Running after small pots of money, should focus on the business