# OXFORD UNIVERSITY INNOVATION





# Marketing and Comms at Oxford University Innovation

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# OUI Background & History





1987: Oxford Research & Development Ltd.

1988: Isis Innovation Ltd.

**2016**: Oxford University Innovation Ltd.







Nigel Keen (Chair), CEO & MD, External (1), OU (8)

Ewan McKendrick, Giles Kerr, Ian Walmsley, Steve Davies, Lionel Tarassenko, Matthew Wood, Patrick Grant, Helen McShane







# Some important milestones, increasing services





•	1999	Isis Angels Network Ltd established
•	2000	Oxford University Consulting started (became part of Isis in 2002)
•	2004	Isis Enterprise started, November
•	2010	Oxford Invention Fund launched
•	2011	Isis Software Incubator started
•	2014	Oxford University Innovation Fund (Parkwalk Advisors)
•	2014	NaturalMotion exit (\$527m)
•	2015	Oxford Sciences Innovation formed
•	2016	Renamed Oxford University Innovation
•	2016	LAB282 partnership established

# Marketing & Growth





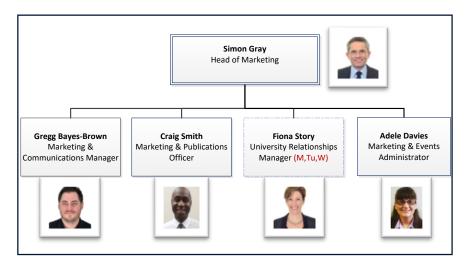
#### Mission

the University of Oxford.





The Marketing Team mission is to ensure that our business services and achievements are positively communicated to maintain high awareness amongst our internal and external stakeholders, in order to assist and support the Business Groups to accomplish their respective missions for Oxford University Innovation and

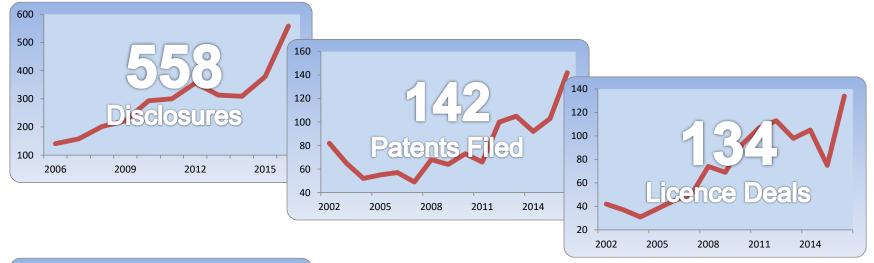


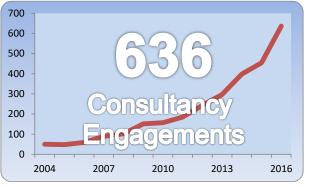
- Marketing 'Team' started with one person in 2005, now five people
- Increased resources with business growth (virtuous circle)

# Marketing & Growth











#### **OUI Communications**





- Principal responsibility is to support OUI activity, promoting
  - new IP for licensing
  - investment opportunities
  - consultancy capabilities
  - OU reputation for innovation leadership
  - opportunities for engagement
- Working with all Divisions
  - Including Humanities Innovation Challenge, SocSci entrants to Incubator...





- Enthusiastically supporting outputs of the 2014 OIWG Report
  - innovation now widely accepted and promoted across the University

#### Audiences and channels





#### **Audiences**

Researchers

OU support & admin staff

Industry & business

Angel investors

VC funds etc

Government

Media

Other TTO's, universities

#### Channels (eg)

Face-to-face in departments

Seminars etc

**Technology Profiles** 

**Investment Profiles** 

Oxford Innovation Society

**Investor Events** 

Website, social media

**Innovation Insights** 

**Email newsletters** 

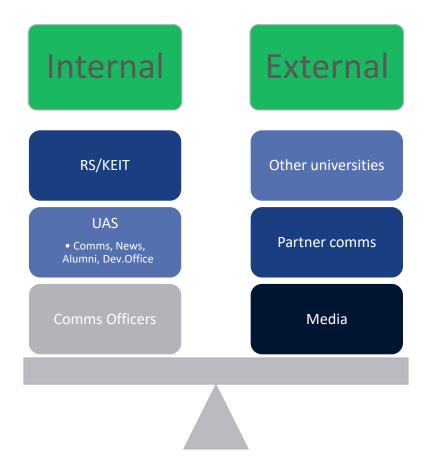
#### OUI staff 'hotdesk' in many University locations



# Key communications interfaces







#### Can we...

- work more efficiently with comms sources?
- redistribute content better through departments/colleges?
- host more colleagues at our hotdesk @ OUI?

# **Challenges & Opportunities**





- Different goals between academia and commercial world
  - Not wrong or a problem, but must be navigated
- Positive outcome of Innovation Comms Working Group
  - Opportunities for greater impact from greater alignment, integrated messaging
- How can we organise to provide best service to the University?
  - OIWG: impact, not profit
- A wider focus?
  - $\circ$  OUI  $\rightarrow$  OU  $\rightarrow$  Cluster



## The OUI Vision





To improve people's lives and make a better world through the innovation, entrepreneurship and expertise of Oxford University



















# What are the key themes?





- World-class performance
  - Oxford University top ranked university in the world
  - OUI one of the highest performing TTOs globally
  - Leading research, professors and students
- Ideas that drive human progress
  - Generating impact from research
  - The companies which bring those ideas into the real world
  - The ecosystem that fosters them
- Unlocking research potential
  - Beating the drum for research commercialisation
  - Stimulating conversation around best practice
  - Highlighting models we have in Oxford (OUI, OSI, etc)

## Who are the audiences?





#### Internal

- The University
- Local

#### **External**

- Industry
- Investors
- Government
- Journalists
- General public
- International audiences

# The University





- Provide content for internal audiences
- Work with the main press office, digital comms, and others to

extend our reach.

- Recent successes:
  - Our roundup of 2016
  - Our unicorn founders article
- Looking ahead...
  - More narrative-driven content
  - Working closer with the colleges and divisions



# Oxford's billion-dollar startup founders



#### 8th February 2017

Following research showin more founders of billion-d institution in Europe, Oxfo Bayes-Brown takes a close Oxford, and the companies

In the tech world, few phrases get pe describe startups valued at over a bi large amounts of investment cash ar

Featuring some of the biggest name developing the sort of positive mom made of. However, with just over 200





#### Oxford most prolific university innovator in Europe

Oxford University Innovation launches 24 companies in 2016 with a combined £52.6m in early stage funding, setting a new record in spinout generation for the UK and Europe.

#### Oxford, UK – 9 January 2017

Oxford University Innovation (OUI), the research commercialisation company for Oxford University, launched an unprecedented 24 high-tech firms in 2016, raising a combined total of £52.6m in seed stage funding and punctuating OUI's strongest calendar year to date.

Spinouts (companies based on Oxford University intellectual property) account for 21 of the new firms. This more than doubles OU's performance in 2015 [10 spinouts) and sets a new record for spinout companies emerging from a higher education institution in Europe. OUI also improved its year-on-year performance for licences sold, with 117 in 2016, while patents filed increased from 99 to 118.

The 2016 spinout cohort is spread across a number of sectors, including aeronautics, wireless energy transfer, regenerative medicine, big data, and virtual reality.

Some of the highlights from 2016 include:

- OxStem, which raised £16.9m in seed financing for its regenerative medicine technologies spread across a number of areas of health.
- Mind Foundry, which is using machine learning and big data to help organisations solve currently
- EnzBond, developed by students while completing their studies and looks to integrate enzymes with pharmaceutical production using in-silico methods.

Some of the companies are still operating in stealth mode, and will be formally announced in the first few months of 2017.

Over the course of the year, OUI also extended its work in areas beyond the traditional sources for technology

### Local





- Works both as internal PR, and to let the wider ecosystem know what we are doing (I also consider this internal-ish).
- Mainly target the BBC, as well as the local papers
- **Successes:** 
  - Multiple spinouts covered
  - 2016 roundup
  - **Drayson Technologies**

Electronic patient record system developed by Oxford University saves nurses valuable time



23 Feb 2017 / Hannah Somerville, Reporter covering Blackbird Leys. Call me on (01865)















Don't be the last to know! Get the latest local news straight to your inbox.

A GAME-CHANGING system developed in Oxford to record hospital patients' vital signs using iPads could cut time nurses need on each person by up to 30 per cent, a research project has found.

#### External





 To reach stakeholders, Cultivating relationship with journalists is key. We've recently worked with:



















# Focus areas moving forward





#### Internal

- More narrative driven content
- Further engagement with divisions, colleges, etc.
- Developing innovation briefing documents

#### External

- Cultivating new relations with journalists
- Expanding our network to find richer stories to tell (both with Oxford organisations and further afield)

#### Long term goals?

- Supporting enhanced collaboration between comms officers on innovation comms
- Working more closely as an 'innovation comms team'
- Putting Oxford firmly on the innovation map