

# EU University & Enterprise Collaboration

## Case Study: University of Surrey



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# The University of Surrey



- South East England – approx 30miles from London
  - A research intensive university consisting of 4 faculties
    - Faculty of Health & Medical Sciences
    - Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences
    - Faculty of Arts & Human Sciences
    - Faculty of Management & Law
  - Long standing history of enterprise related activities
  - World class micro satellite spin-out company SSTL
  - Just about the float another company on AIM – valued at 30-40M
  - Extensive CPD programme

# Background



- 1891** Foundation of Battersea Polytechnic Institute.
- 1956** Following the designation of 'college of advanced technology', Battersea Polytechnic is renamed Battersea College of Technology
- 1963** Following the Roberts Report it was given degree awarding powers
- 1966** Attained Chartered University status
- 1968** Relocated to Guildford, Surrey

# Key facts



- **Student numbers (2004/5)**

U/G	6881
P/G (taught)	1958
P/G (research)	1019
<b>Total</b>	<b>9858</b>

80% U/G students participate in a professional training year

95.7% employment rate following graduation

- **Research**

Research income - 27.4M (05/06)

Core areas:

Comms

Sustainable energies

Nanotechnology

Environmental sciences

Health care

Space /satellites

Tissue engineering

Demographics (aging populations)

# The Enterprise Agenda



- The University of Surrey places a very high priority on creating and nurturing productive links with business and industry, and currently has working relationships with over 2,500 businesses
- The University's plans in this area have been backed by substantial funding from the Government - approximately £7M since 2001
- The University's Research Park is a 70-acre (28.33 hectare) low density development close to the main campus. There are 140 companies based there that are engaged in a broad spectrum of research, development and design activities.
- Location of University's SETsquared Incubator (high growth-high tech businesses)

# Rationale for EU University–Enterprise Agenda



- Initially driven by interested academics – e.g. COMET , ADAPT programmes delivered through the School of Educational Studies
- A route to enhance the ‘student experience’ (placements)
- Opportunities for the academic community (staff mobility, development of critical, high value, quality networks that are essential components of quality research)
- EU interaction is regarded as highly complimentary to our core business and is referred to either directly/indirectly in a number of institutional strategy documents:
  - *Overarching University Strategy*
  - *Research Strategy*
  - *Teaching & Learning Strategy*
  - *International Strategy (in development)*
  - *Enterprise / KT Strategy*

# What do we expect out of EU university-enterprise collaboration?



- Improved entrepreneurial spirit at the University
- Greater university-enterprise interaction
- Sustainable, high quality university – business relationships
- Increased number of university-industrial R&D opportunities
- Accelerated KT from university to industry and vice versa
- Increased exploitation of IP in markets outside the UK
- Raised profile of the university and its expertise in EU
- Development of attractive, flexible market-led CPD programmes
- Development and support of staff /student mobility

# Central Skills Development Services



- Registry
- Student Personal Learning & Study Hub (SPLASH)
- Surrey Centre for Excellence in Professional Training & Education (SCEPTrE)
- Main funding routes include Leonardo, Socrates, ERASMUS, ADAPT
- Focus on EU student placements and curriculum design:
  - Transferable skills for EU recruitment*
  - Placement learning Support Network*
  - EU Peer Network (VLE for interactive discussion groups)*

# Faculties & Research Centres



- Staff mobility – currently have 6 Marie Curie
- Transfer of innovation - FP5 and FP6 ( NOEs, STREPS, IPs) – approximately 120 FP6 initiatives
- Wide ranging R&D activities across the University > 35 EOI's submitted at the first FP7 call, currently have >50 for the next call
- Skills development – ESF objective 3 funding (life long learning, employability skills, business creation, and increasing competitive of the regional SME community)

# Research & Enterprise Support



- RES interface between the university and industry
- Consists of
  - Research & Business Development*
  - Consultancy & Expert Services*
  - Technology Transfer & Commercialisation*
  - Incubation Services*
  - Project & Entrepreneurship Programmes*
- Two strands:
  1. Enterprise skills development
  2. University-enterprise collaboration
- Numerous objective 3 ESF programmes since 2001
- 1 x INTERREG IIC project. e.g. BBaS (GROW) valued at €7.5 million. It has been developed by the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) in collaboration with the South East England Regional Assembly and the Environment Agency

# Future development



- Expansion of research activity
- Expansion of skills development activity for graduates, SMEs employers/employees (Life Long Learning – Leadership Skills, Entrepreneurship Education, placement and mobility support)

## Actions to strengthen the development of EU collaboration

- Easier way for young academics to develop their own networks, they frequently have to rely on established EU net workers such as their supervisors
- More incentives for the business community to encourage university – enterprise collaboration
- Appropriate costing methodologies which are sympathetic to University needs
- More success stories which can be used as an example to prospective industrial partners