

IMBcom NEWS



JULY 2011



*Dr Peter Isdale, CEO
Dr Amanda Smith, Manager, Intellectual Property and Development*

About IMBcom

IMBcom is one of UQ's commercialisation companies (motto: "Today's Science: Tomorrow's Business"). Our job is to translate the discoveries of IMB researchers into useful applications where that is appropriate. The company protects the discoveries of IMB researchers by filing patents, devising business and development strategies, and creating partnerships with industry and other investors who help to grow these discoveries into new treatments or useful tools.

IMB Engagement

To enable IMBcom's Relationship Managers (RMs) to be usefully involved with the activities of the labs for which they are responsible, each Group Leader has been asked that the RM for their Group be included on their 'internal' email list. This is proving to be very helpful to all.

Proof of Concept (POC) Applications:

IMBcom and the IMB jointly administer a POC fund designed to advance technologies to meet intellectual property or commercial milestones. A POC Grant has recently been awarded to Mark Smythe to develop new anti-inflammatory compounds in the prostaglandin synthetic pathway.

Intellectual Property Update:

From January through to June this year, the company evaluated eleven New Discoveries from eight IMB laboratories.

- Light emitting nanoparticles (Cooper)
- Improving photosynthesis in algae (Cooper)
- A new class of cyclotides (Craik)
- A grafted, targeting peptide (Craik)
- Cancer diagnostic (Koopman)
- New chemical method (Fairlie)
- A new class of cyclic peptides (Craik)
- New barcoding technology (Grimmond)
- New lymphangiogenesis target (Hogan)
- Novel human peptides (Mattick)
- New angiogenesis target (Wicking)

We have filed two Provisional Patent Applications and are presently drafting one more.

- Fabaceae cyclotide gene (Craik, filed)
- A new bioassay (Lewis, drafted)
- Novel human proteins (Mattick, filed)

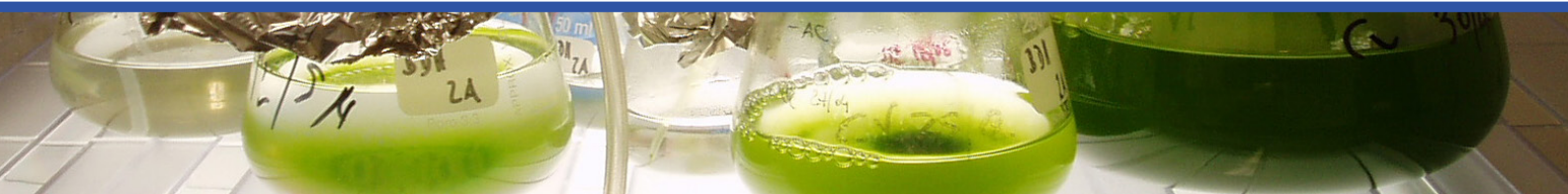
We have filed four International PCT Applications and another one is being drafted.

- A noncoding RNA cancer diagnostic (Mattick, filed)
- A new class of ncRNA (spliRNAs) (Mattick, filed)
- Haematopoietic-prostaglandin D2 Synthase (HPGDS) Inhibitors (Smythe, filed)
- Nociceptin Modulator technology (Fairlie, filed)
- PAR2 Modulator technology (Fairlie, in draft)

No of Patent Families under Active Management: 19

Granted Patents (Jan-June):

Technology	Country Granted	IMB Lab.
Natriuretic Peptides	Europe & United States	Alewood
CCK cyclotide platform technology	United States	Craik
Hydrogen production in algae	Japan	Hankamer



Other Activities:

IMB's labs have many (often complex) legal documents to deal with in the course of a year. IMBcom assists researchers to negotiate agreements such as MTAs, Research Services Agreements, Confidentiality Agreements, Funding Agreements and the like with third parties, including the University itself. In the period January to June 2011 IMBcom has negotiated and facilitated the passage of 89 agreements through the UQ legal system.

To assist Group Leaders attract potential industry partners when applying for ARC linkage grants, the company has been working with IMB Group Leaders to develop capability profile templates designed to showcase their research strengths.

An ARC Linkage Grant for \$2.4M for a project with Pfizer has been successful (Craik and Fairlie Groups). IMBcom is negotiating a commercial IP rights agreement with the industry partner.

Did you know ?!

By agreement with the University, when UQ's commercialisation companies receive net income from the development of UQ's researchers' discoveries, they disburse that income to the University under the following arrangement:

1. 1/3 to the Contributors determined in accordance with the relevant Procedures;
2. 1/3 to the University, which will be retained by a University Commercialisation Company where the Commercialisation of the IP occurs through that University Commercialisation Company; and
3. 1/3 to the relevant faculty or institute of the University.

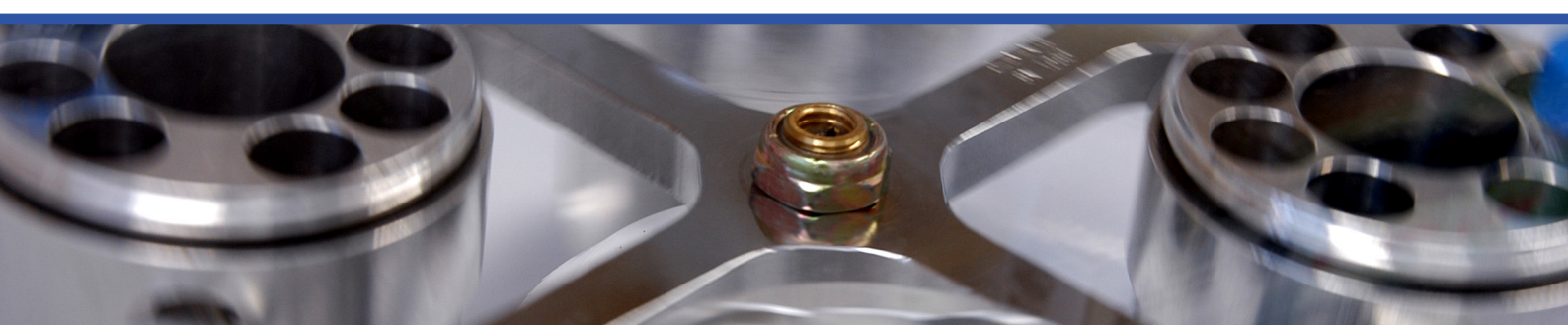
See the University's Policy and Procedures Library (4.10.13 Intellectual Property for Staff, Students and Visitors).

Industry Engagement:

Along with staff from the IMB, the CEO attended the BIO International conference in Washington DC in June. Meetings were held with large pharma companies, venture capital organisations and trade representatives to highlight the research presently being carried out at the IMB. Dr Amanda Smith, Manager Intellectual Property and Development, attended the Venom to Drugs Conference, organised by Profs. Paul Alewood, King and Lewis.

Business Development:

- IMBcom has closed a licence deal with a large multinational pharmaceutical company for a collaborative research program to be carried out on two platform technologies in the IMB's laboratories.
- A collaborative research program between Protagonist (an IMBcom spin-out company) and IMBcom/UQ has been extended and expanded and provides funding for ten research positions (10 FTEs) in the Smythe laboratory.
- IMBcom executed an agreement with a US biotech company to provide a human growth hormone bioassay developed by Professor Mike Waters. This assay is used to measure potency of manufactured human growth hormone. A second deal with an international biotech company is under negotiation.
- Development work on IMB's IMB007 (pain drug lead) is continuing with in vitro, in vivo and pK studies planned (Craik). The technology has been licensed into a new IMBcom start-up, CCA Therapeutics Pty Ltd.
- Commercial development work on an omega-conotoxin is underway (Lewis)
- An early-stage development partnership with a large life science company and technology licenses relating to the non coding RNA technologies from the Mattick laboratory are being pursued.
- NIRAP funding for the \$3.5M Microalgae Pilot Plant commenced in January 2011 for the Hankamer laboratory. Construction of the pilot plant at UQ's Pinjarra Hills facility has commenced. This pilot plant will facilitate the design of bioreactors using efficient algal strains to produce biofuels and other valuable products on a sustainable basis.
- Discussions on two of IMB's discoveries have been held with a Boston biotechnology company, which is seeking early stage platform technologies on behalf of six big pharma companies.
- Two research groups have been identified to carry out in vivo studies in regard to research being carried out on a novel drug for nociceptive pain (Fairlie Group).
- An external consultant has been engaged to facilitate contact with the high level decision makers in global pharma companies in relation to the development of novel human therapeutics (Mattick group).
- The second Research Steering Group committee meeting for the Wellcome Trust SDD and Cooper laboratory has been held with representatives from Wellcome Trust, Cambridge Enterprise, the IMB and IMBcom.



Education:

This year, twenty-two third year PhD students participated in the 10th annual BioBusiness Retreat, held at Mantra Legends Hotel on the Gold Coast. As always, the event highlighted the importance of protection, development and management of the IMB's intellectual property portfolio.

IMBcom has a standing "family" of industry representatives who attend the Retreat to give insights into the world of biotechnology commercialisation; as well as give advice on future career opportunities.

Presenters this year included:

- Dr Mark Harvey
Partner, CM Capital Investments
- Mr Paul Thompson
Partner, Fisher Adams Kelly
- Dr Mark Egerton
Partner, Fisher Adams Kelly
- Dr Ian Nisbet
Partner, Afandin
- Dr Peter Devine
CEO, Uniseed
- Dr Kathy Nielsen
Senior Investment Manager, QBF

In the weeks leading up to the Retreat, the students work on projects, creating pseudo companies and technologies; presenting and seeking investment from a panel of venture capitalists during the Retreat. Congratulations go to the winners of the Best Venture Capital pitch 2011 - Josh Wingerd (Lewis), Keerthana Krishnan (Grimmond) and Fabian Buske (Bailey).



▲ Students Preparing for the BioPitch:
Mr Martin Smith (Mattick); Mr Pierre Cattenoz (Mattick); Miss Shaffinaz Abd Rahman (Muscat); Dr Amanda Smith (IMBcom); Ms Marga Gual Soler (Stow)



▲ Students at Pre-Dinner Drinks
Mr Peter Yee (Wainwright); Mr Nick Ariotti (Parton); Mr Oleksiy Kovtun (Alexandrov); Mrs Joanne Leerberg (Yap); Mr Zakir Tnimov (Alexandrov)



▲ Best BioPitch Team
Mr Paul Thompson (FAK - Sponsor); Dr Peter Devine (Uniseed - Judge); Mr Josh Wingerd (Lewis); Ms Keerthana Krishnan (Grimmond); Mr Fabian Buske (Bailey); Dr Carla Toland (IMBcom Mentor)

▶ Most Outstanding Individual
Dr Mark Egerton (FAK - Sponsor); Mr Pierre Cattenoz (Mattick)



▶ Expert Judging Panel
Dr Peter Devine (Uniseed); Dr Katherine Nielsen (QBF); Dr Ian Nisbet (Afandin)

▶ Dinner Games: Celebrity Head
Dr Amanda Smith (IMBcom)

