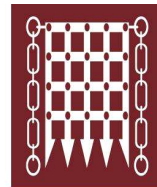


Westminster Higher Education Forum Keynote Seminar: The future for UK science and innovation - funding, commercialisation of research, and priorities for infrastructure investment

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 28th February 2019

Venue: Sixty One Whitehall, London SW1A 2ET



**WESTMINSTER
HIGHER EDUCATION
FORUM**

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
The Earl of Selborne
- 9.05 - 9.25 **The Industrial Strategy and investment in UK science and innovation**
Mike Biddle, Deputy Executive Chair; Chief Operating Officer and Director, Strategy, Innovate UK
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 - 9.45 **The impact of KEF & REF on commercialisation of research**
Alice Frost, Director of Knowledge Exchange, Research England
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.45 - 10.05 **Assessing the balance of research spending and promoting evidence-driven innovation policy**
Dr Jos van den Broek, Senior Researcher, Rathenau Instituut, The Hague
Jen Rae, Head, UK Innovation Policy, Nesta
- 10.05 - 11.00 **Priorities for science and innovation spending - emerging tech sectors, regional economies and leveraging private R&D investment**
What is the likely impact of the Government's pledge of up to 2.4% of UK GDP for R&D by 2027 on the UK's international positioning in research and on encouraging private investment? Are the emerging tech sectors identified for the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund the most likely contenders for enabling the UK to take world-leading positions; which other sectors should be considered? What has been the impact of Science and Innovation Audits on effectively focusing regions on areas of existing R&D strengths and what more needs to be done to further develop clusters? How can the increased public investment in UK research and innovation be utilised most effectively; for example what is the right balance between the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund, HEIF allocations and QR funding through REF? What are the early indicators from the Innovation Loans pilots, and is there a case for legislating to allow Innovate UK to take equity stakes in start-ups and scale-ups as an alternative form of investment? How effective are R&D tax credits as a tool for encouraging private investment and what steps can be taken to increase their up-take by eligible businesses?
Ian Taylor, Chairman, UK Innovation & Science Seed Fund and former Minister, Science, Space & Technology, Department for Trade and Industry (1994-97)
Zoe Martin, Policy Manager, Cancer Research UK
Professor Richard Brook, President, AIRTO
Rachel Castle, Associate Director, Government Affairs, AstraZeneca
Questions and comments from the floor with **Dr Jos van den Broek**, Senior Researcher, Rathenau Instituut, The Hague and **Jen Rae**, Head, UK Innovation Policy, Nesta
- 11.00 - 11.25 Coffee
- 11.25 - 11.45 **Best practice in management of intellectual property**
Pippa Hall, Director of Innovation and Chief Economist, IPO
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 - 11.55 **Maximising the potential of the Catapult Network**
Rosa Wilkinson, Communications Director, High Value Manufacturing Catapult
Dr Kerstin Papenfuss, University Liaison Manager, Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult
- 11.55 - 12.55 **Addressing the challenges for commercialisation of research - managing IP, encouraging spin-outs and the licensing of university IP, and making the most of existing infrastructure and the Catapult Centre network**
What more could be done to improve IP management in universities - for example increasing the time, funding and other resources invested in commercialisation activity, and growing the number of staff involved and developing their skills? What is the potential of the Science and Innovation Audits to create a more even distribution of IP income between the very successful commercialising universities and other research-intensive institutions with potentially exploitable IP assets? How can a greater number of university-industry partnerships, particularly involving SMEs, be developed, and what is the role of these partnerships in addressing both industry-wide and business-specific challenges in the commercialisation of research? How can the new University Enterprise Zones best support local innovative businesses to grow? With UKRI preparing to publish their infrastructure roadmap, to what extent is the potential of existing scientific infrastructure, including the Catapult Centre network, being maximised by universities and businesses?
Justyna Ostrowska, Solicitor, IP Transactions and Commercialisation, Fieldfisher
Dr Anne Dobrée, Head of Seed Funds, Cambridge Enterprise, University of Cambridge
Byron Tucker, Technology Centre Manager, TATA Steel in Europe
Mark Truman, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Arc
Questions and comments from the floor with **Rosa Wilkinson**, Communications Director, High Value Manufacturing Catapult and **Dr Kerstin Papenfuss**, University Liaison Manager, Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**
The Earl of Selborne
Michael Ryan, Deputy Editor, Westminster Higher Education Forum