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## From the Executive Director

I have spent some time the last few months visiting the 2005 Proof of Concept and Patent & Legal award winners at Springboard member universities and I have seen some great projects.

The awards seem to fill a critical need to get a prototype working, as in the case of Dr. J. Maksym and his asthma medical device at Dal. They can also serve to put the finishing touches on research to prepare it for commercialization, as is

the case with Dr. Ghislain Deslongchamps and his chemistry flashware at UNB.

We have received a good response to our 2006 call for awards and I look forward to those being presented this fall.

The Springboard Technology Showcase will be held in October. Please start identifying technologies ready for commercialization or industry partnership to present at the Showcase.

The showcase will visit all four Atlantic Provinces this fall in an effort to increase attendance of the private sector.

We will also use the showcase as an opportunity to distribute our first Annual Report.

I hope everyone is having a good summer and I look forward to seeing you all at our member meeting on October 2nd at Mount Allison University in Sackville.

*Sara Jane Snook*

## Upcoming Events

### NSAC's Open House

July 27 - 28  
Truro, NS  
[www.nsac.ca](http://www.nsac.ca)

### CABI Annual Conference

(Canadian Association of Business Incubation)  
Sept 24 - 26  
Halifax, NS  
[www.cabi.ca](http://www.cabi.ca)

### BioPort Atlantic 2006

Sept 26 - 27  
Halifax, NS  
[www.bionova.ns.ca](http://www.bionova.ns.ca)

### Springboard Member Meeting

**\*New Date\*** Oct. 2nd  
Mount Allison University  
Sackville, NB

### Springboard IP Training

Oct. 3 - 4  
Mount Allison University  
Sackville, NB

### National Science & Technology Week and Springboard Showcase

Oct. 13-22

### AUTM TOOLS & Start-ups

Oct 26 - 28  
St. Louis, MO

### National SBIR Conference

(Small Business Innovation Research)  
Nov 6 - 9  
Milwaukee, WI  
[www.sbirworld.com](http://www.sbirworld.com)

### ACCT Annual Meeting

Nov 12-14  
Ottawa, ON

### ACCT Basic Licensing

Nov 14-17  
Ottawa, ON



## Dalhousie Innovation Award

Dalhousie's 2006 Innovation Award of \$50,000 was presented to Professor Mark Stradiotto for his work on Developing Transition Metal Catalysts supported by New Planar-Chiral Metalloligands for use in Mediating Commercially Relevant Asymmetric Chemical Transformation.

The award is supported by Dalhousie University, the Office of Economic Development, the IWK and Capital District Health Authority. Dr. Stradiotto was selected by InNovacorp and Dalhousie's Industrial Liaison and Innovation Office.

The technology was selected by the Faculty of Management's MBA students as a project to help Dr. Stradiotto with business strategies.



(R to L) Doris Grant, Mark Stradiotto and Ron Layden



Canada Foundation for Innovation  
Fondation canadienne pour l'innovation



## UNB: CFI funding for Effects of Space Weather

A researcher at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton is setting up instruments in the high Arctic that will improve our ability to predict space weather.

Physicist Thayyil Jayachandran is spearheading the Canadian High-Arctic Ionospheric Network — an array of radio instruments in the polar cap. On June 21,

he received \$318,916 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) in support of his research.

The network will expand the existing Canadian Geospace Monitoring program of the Canadian Space Agency and contribute to the Canadian Space Weather Forecast Service of Natural Resources Canada.

This funding will help Dr. Jayachandran to acquire the infrastructure required for his research in the high Arctic and to establish a Radio Physics Laboratory at UNBF.

“The lab will enable my research team to develop and test new radio remote-sensing techniques,” he explained. “With the help of a high-data rate GPS receiver, we will develop a GPS-based lightning detection system.”

...a 'profile' capability for Flintbox will help account holders locate potential partners...

## News from

## flintbox

Tanya Moxley, Springboard Training and Business Development Manager, met with Flintbox staff while in Vancouver in June. She is now able to present training sessions for Springboard members, and also found out about upcoming changes to Flintbox.

Two new projects from Flintbox are underway for the latter half of 2006.

“Research Impact” is a project of York University and the University of Victoria. It aims to add functionality for ‘knowledge transfer’ to Flintbox. They hope this will receive a lot of take-up from university researchers

seeking to collaborate on research and share knowledge.

BDC and others are funding a ‘profile’ capability for Flintbox accounts. This will allow account holders to search for research & industry interests and make it easier to find project collaborators.

## An Introduction to UBC's Entrepreneur-in-Residence

While in Vancouver in June, Tanya Moxely also had an opportunity to meet with Gary Albach, UBC's Entrepreneur in Residence. Gary's background is in the information technology field, having run and sold several successful UBC spin-offs. He was asked by UBC

to take on this program as a one year trial in hopes of increasing the number of successful UBC spin-offs.

He has undertaken several educational and mentoring programs focused on six spin-off needs: idea, talent, space, network, capital, and

love. Sessions have been well-attended and the program is expected to be extended for another year.

Gary is willing to talk about the program with other universities! His contact information is available at: <http://www.uilo.ubc.ca/>



## Genesis Centre receives National Recognition

-By Deborah Inkpen

Memorial University's Genesis Centre has been nationally recognized for the inventive ways in which it helps fledgling technology-based ventures get a healthy start in business.

The Genesis Centre was awarded the Information Technology (IT) Strategic Human Resource Leadership Award at the 21st national CATA Alliance Innovation Awards on Tuesday, June 20th in Ottawa.

The award, sponsored by the Software Human Resource Council, is given to an IT company or organization which enhanced its performance and reputation by leveraging human capital.

Every client at the Genesis Centre is paired with a world-class mentor, and an advisory board of three to five experienced business people. Genesis utilizes the business expertise of expe-



(L to R) Mr. Brian Wade, Gov't. NL, David King, Keelin O'Leary, GENESIS Centre, Dr. Christopher Loomis, vice-president (research)

riate Newfoundlanders who serve as mentors, as well as members of the local business community for the advisory boards. Consultants, guest lecturers and Genesis staff provide additional support and advice to clients. A private-sector Selection Board is also used to determine which applicants get accepted into the business incubator.

This approach has proven its value in increasing the likelihood, rate and degree of success of emerging companies, and in extending

the human resource capacity of the Centre. Dr. Chris Loomis, vice-president (research) of Memorial, David King, president and CEO of GENESIS Group, and Keelin O'Leary, manager, Genesis Centre were on hand in Ottawa to accept the award.

"Memorial's Genesis Centre continues to demonstrate leadership and unquestionable value to developing technology companies in Newfoundland and Labrador," said Dr. Loomis. This award recognizes the ability of the Centre to align human resources with corporate, strategic goals, enhancing our reputation and success in the commercialization of research."

Mr. King added, "At Genesis we have discovered that success lies not in 'breakthrough technologies' but rather in outstanding people."

-Cited from MUN website

...success lies not  
in 'breakthrough  
technologies' but  
rather in  
outstanding  
people  
- David King



## Fall Springboard Showcase Plans Underway

Plans to take the Springboard Technology Showcase on the road this fall are well underway.

The plan is to showcase 15 technologies ready for commercialization from Atlantic Universities.

The showcase will touch down in St. John's, Halifax, Charlottetown and Moncton during National Science and Technology week, October 13th to the 22nd, 2006.

If you know of a local event we could partner with, please contact the Springboard office.

## From the Training Coordinator

A Springboard Regional Workshop on the Science of Marketing was held May 30-31 in St. John's at Memorial University. It was a resounding success, with 20 attendees and very positive feedback about our facilitators: Donna Stapleton (Memorial), Jim Zanewicz (U of Louisville) and Jane Muir (U of Florida).

Jane's Challenge Session was a big hit with the group,

and we hope to use that format again at future workshops. Jane pushed members beyond the science of a new technology to think about the market and commercial applications by asking tough questions like "so what?"

Another action item arising from the training is to arrange sessions for network members to work together on Technology

Opportunity sheets.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our October workshop on Intellectual Property, Oct 3-4 in Sackville, NB.

Thanks to NSERC's Intellectual Property Mobilization Program for funding the Regional Workshop series through our Intern award.

## Observing the 'Experts' at Work

Another great opportunity for Springboard's Tanya Moxley while in Vancouver was a tour of UBC's UILO facility.

Their office is located in one of three buildings located on the UBC campus that are owned, not by UBC, but by Discovery Parks.

These buildings are incubation facilities used by UBC spin-offs. The businesses are able to easily access UBC researchers and support services, without using up limited campus space. Once the businesses reach a certain size, they are supported in moving to off-campus facilities hosted by Lighthouse (a private company), freeing

up incubation space for new start-ups.

The UILO space is divided into areas for finance, technology transfer, and sponsored research. All three groups make a significant contribution to the work of the UILO, which consists of about 40 regular employees.

The best way to get a clear understanding of the amount of tech transfer work that is done through this office is a tour of the file room. It contains eight double-sided file walls twenty feet long, on wheels to facilitate access. Files on both sides of each wall date back ten years, and those are just the active files! Closed files, and those over

ten years old, are archived off site.

In 2004/05, UBC had \$364 million in research funding. The UILO received 143 disclosures, and completed 32 license deals, to bring their total number of active licenses & assignments to 230. Their total licensing revenue for the year was \$15.9 million.

UBC's UILO is one of the largest and most successful technology transfer offices in Canada. It was very informative to tour their facility and speak with them directly about the work they do.

Learn more about UBC's UILO on the web at:

<http://www.uilo.ubc.ca/>

## News from NSERC-CRSNG:

The Major Resource Support (MRS) program has replaced the Major Facilities Access (MFA) program.

The objective of the MRS program is to facilitate effective access to major regional, national, or international (based in Canada) experimental or thematic research resources by financially assisting these resources to remain in a state of readiness for researchers to use.

MRS grants are not intended to support resources that are standard in a discipline or commonly available in Canadian universities. The MRS program also aims to facilitate access by Canadian researchers to major international resources located outside Canada, excluding any direct financial support towards the operating and maintenance costs of such resources.

## St. FX: Chem. Prof Scores \$134,000 for Lab Equipment

Dr. Brian MacLean a researcher at St. FX received grants totaling \$134,100 to set up his lab, and is currently ordering two major pieces of equipment along with about 20-30 minor items, all brand new, and all geared towards creating a top learning and research environment.

"It's great. I'm very happy," says Dr. MacLean, recipient of a \$67,050 Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) grant from the New Leaders Opportunity Fund.

This new program, created to reflect Canada's fast-evolving research environment, was designed to give Canadian universities the flexibility to attract and retain the best of today's and tomorrow's researchers at a time of intense competition for leading faculty. Funding is used for laboratory infrastructure.

The Nova Scotia Research and Innovation Trust automatically matches these funds.

Along with this most recent grant, Dr. Maclean also

holds a three-year \$60,000 research award from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).



(Dr. Brian MacLean)



*This new program, created to reflect Canada's fast-evolving research environment, was designed to give Canadian universities the flexibility to attract and retain the best of today and tomorrow's researchers at a time of intense competition for leading faculty.*

## SMU: Grad Student and Professor Receive CIHR Funding

The Atlantic Canada Studies (ACS) program at Saint Mary's has received a major boost in research funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

Jen Crawford, a Master of Arts (MA) student in

the ACS program, has been awarded a \$17,500 Canada

Graduate Scholarship, and Dr. Peter Twohig, Canada Research Chair in ACS, has received \$70,000 from the nation's most important health research organization.

The funding will allow Crawford to carry out research that will probe Nova Scotia's sexual health educa-

tion curriculum. Her research findings will be used for her MA thesis in the ACS program. She will work directly with Dr. Twohig on this unique project.



**Saint Mary's University**

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada



**CIHR IRSC**  
Canadian Institutes of Health Research / Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada

## IP Corner

The University of Illinois in Chicago has a very busy Technology Transfer Office. On our recent ACOA mission, Sara Jane spent time with the

Director of the office, Lesley Millar discussing best practices. Their IP policy is a good example of an American university policy and be accessed at:

[www.otm.uiuc.edu/attachments/ippolicypaperformatted.pdf](http://www.otm.uiuc.edu/attachments/ippolicypaperformatted.pdf)

# UIC



**Memorial**  
University of Newfoundland



Canada Foundation for Innovation  
Fondation canadienne pour l'innovation

*“These awards represent a significant boost to the research capacities of Memorial University of Newfoundland,”*  
*-Eliot Phillipson*

## MUN: Researchers Receive CFI Funding

-By Deborah Inkpen

New infrastructure, funded by the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), will make it possible for Memorial University researchers to look more closely at molecules than ever before, help develop new strategies for dealing with cancer and go beyond the microchip. Over \$820,000 was awarded for three projects which will have far-reaching benefits for Canadians. Dr. Travis Fridgen of the Department of Chemistry has received \$547,630 in funding from CFI for new equipment aimed at funda-

mental studies of weak interactions between neutral and electrically-charged molecules and the structures that result from these interactions. This fundamental research has the potential to aid researchers who are trying to further understand Alzheimer's disease and those studying self-assembling molecules for drug delivery and perhaps other areas in medical research such as diagnosis. The infrastructure will also enable researchers in areas such as health, synthetic chemistry and drug design.

“These awards represent a significant boost to the research capacities of Memorial University of Newfoundland,” said Dr. Eliot Phillipson, president and CEO of the CFI. “Today's announcement exemplifies what the CFI is all about: providing institutions with the means to attract and retain the world-class researchers that this country needs to remain at the forefront in terms of both quality of life and economic competitiveness.”

-New Release continued at:

<http://www.mun.ca/marcomm/news/index.php?includefile=showitem.php&id=1233>

## Saint Mary's and NSERC host ACEnet Workshop



(L to R) Gina Funicelli (Saint Mary's ILO), Christian Boudreau (Pratt & Whitney), Michael Heller (Kanayo Software), Terry Dalton (Canadian Informatics Consultants Ltd.), Jennifer Pinks (Saint Mary's ILO), and Ed Wilton (SUN Integrated Open Systems)

Saint Mary's University's Industry Liaison Office (ILO) and the Natural Sciences Engineering Research Council (NSERC) co-hosted a one day workshop on June 22nd, attracting researchers and industry and government representatives from across

Atlantic Canada to learn more about NSERC Funding Programs, the Atlantic Computational Excellence Network (ACEnet) and High Performance Computing (HPC). The workshop's objectives were to

promote NSERC programs in Atlantic Canada and to bring together academia, industry and government to initiate private-public sector partnerships.

The morning session featured Dr. Bob Deupree, Principal Investigator for ACEnet at Saint Mary's University, who provided context for the day's activities. Among the participants were more than 25 researchers representing six universities and 10 industry representatives who

'pitched' their interests and links to High Performance Computing.

The researcher-industry presentations proved a worthwhile exercise in drawing attention to the potential applications for Atlantic Canada's HPC facilities, namely ACEnet. This highly sophisticated computational tool has significant potential to strengthen research in Atlantic Canada and encourage region-wide partnerships between researchers and industry.

## News from Warwick

Part of Springboards mandate is to provide the network with training opportunities, which would not be possible without the funding provided by NSERC's Intellectual Property Mobilization Program.

Springboard sent UNB's Joshua Samuel to the UK for a six week summer placement at Warwick Ventures. During his stay he will be using a blog to keep the network up-to-date.

Here is part of a blog entry. For more information regarding the internship program please contact Springboard. You can follow Joshua's journey at:

<http://www.ip2investment.blogspot.com/>

*From its inception, Warwick has sought to combine teaching and research with an aggressive and unapologetic commercial approach. While many traditionalists found this approach abhorrent, it has served the institution well. Along with strong biology and engineering faculties, Warwick is the home to renowned applied research centres, including the Warwick Manufacturing Group and the Horticultural Research Centre. In 2003, Warwick added a medical school. With about £86 million in research expenditures, the University of Warwick is part of the "long tail" of U.K. institutions behind Oxford, Cambridge and the London universities. Nevertheless according to*

*various independent assessments, Warwick rates in the top five in research quality.*

*By 2000 Warwick decided to create a technology transfer department and hired Ederyn Williams from the University of Leeds Innovations Ltd. to build a department from the ground up. Ederyn had several years of experience with start-ups. At Leeds Innovations, he had 30 spin-off companies under his management and before that he worked for 13 years managing IT businesses at British Telecom. But interestingly Ederyn is not a technologist. He obtained a doctorate in social psychology, which undoubtedly helps in team building since even the best ideas in the world will not succeed without the right people.*

*..even the best ideas in the world will not succeed without the right people.*

*-Joshua Samuel*

## Use of Online Tools (Statistic Reports)

### SharePoint

Usage of SharePoint in June rose from 102 hits in May to 496! Please continue to use the site and post items that you wish to share with others in the network.

### Springboard web site

Not available

### Flintbox

The network's eight Flintbox postings had 250 hits in June, bringing the total to almost 2200.

Springboard is able to assist members with developing text for postings. Please contact us if you would like some help getting started.

Handouts to assist Location Managers with postings are available on SharePoint (Shared Documents/ Events). If you need a reminder of your Flintbox or SharePoint ID/password, contact Tanya.

Springboard is pleased to announce that the Nova Scotia Community College and the College of the North Atlantic have signed onto Flintbox through our Atlantic Can-

ada channel partner agreement with Flintbox.

### Nerac

Currently unavailable; contract is being renegotiated.

*flintbox*

 nerac

sharepoint



Contact us with any comments or questions:

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Fax: 902-421-2733





E-mail: [info@springboardatlantic.ca](mailto:info@springboardatlantic.ca)

Springboard was formed in November 2004 by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) and the Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU).

Springboard is a non-profit member-driven organization with a mandate to support the commercialization of university research in Atlantic Canada.

Springboard provides resources to Atlantic Canadian universities to encourage the transfer of knowledge and technology to the region's private sector. Its members are 14 universities in Atlantic Canada. NSERC has provided funding through Intellectual Property Mobilization Program.

Springboard's areas of focus:

-  Build the Springboard technology transfer network,
-  Build tech transfer capacity through education,
-  Push existing technologies out of universities into the market, and
-  Work with industry to pull ideas for research and development from industry.

[www.springboardatlantic.ca](http://www.springboardatlantic.ca)



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