



March 2008

an initiative of

Higher Education Funding
Council for EnglandDepartment for Innovation,
Universities & SkillsChinese Ministry of Science
and Technology

Director's Message

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the ICUK Newsletter. The Newsletter has been created to highlight and further our achievements in UK-China joint innovation and knowledge transfer. Following our successful launch last November, ICUK has been working closely with UK and Chinese partners to deliver joint activities at full speed. We have so far received 13 Proof-of-Concept fund applications; the first 2 Partnership Grants will be awarded shortly; and the first ICUK event in Biomedical innovation will be held in Guangzhou this March... I hope the ICUK Newsletter will be the vehicle to share these exciting developments with the UK and Chinese academics, policy makers and the wider ICUK community.

-----Manyi Cristofoli, Executive Director, Innovation China UK



Launch Success

At a ceremony held on Tuesday 20 November 2007 at Queen Mary, University of London, Her Excellency Madam Fu Ying, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the UK and Ian Pearson MP, Minister of State for Science and Innovation formally launched Innovation China UK (ICUK).

More than 200 business and academic partners and representatives from the UK and China attended the ICUK launch. Its success has received wide media coverage both in the UK and in China. Please follow the links below for more detailed information about ICUK launch success and media coverage. _

[ICUK in the news in English;](#) [ICUK in the news in Chinese](#) _

Round 1 Proof-of-Concept Fund Application

Following the first call for ICUK Proof of Concept Fund formally announced at the ICUK Launch last November, 8 applications have been received from 5 UK partner institutions. These applications cover key UK-China technology fields such as Traditional Chinese Medicine, Nanotechnology, Infectious Disease and Biomedical Science. These projects involve Chinese academics from Chinese Academy of Sciences, Nanjing University, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Southern Medical University and Fudan University etc. Please click [here](#) for more details.

Proof-of-Concept Fund: Round 2 Call for Applications

Applications are now invited for the second call to the ICUK Proof of Concept Fund for proposals falling within ICUK's remit. The ICUK Proof of Concept Fund aims to support technologies or business ideas from the research community to be further developed to the stage that a commercial company or a private investor will become engaged in the commercialisation of a new product or service. For more details of the Proof of Concept Fund such as funding criteria and how to apply, please click [Funding](#).

Partnership Grant: Round 1 Call for Proposals

Proposals are now invited for the first call to the ICUK Partnership Grant. The ICUK Partnership Grant aims to support the UK and Chinese Higher Education Institutions in initiating research and development collaboration and facilitating joint innovation and knowledge transfer. For more details of the Partnership Grant like funding criteria and application, please click [Funding](#)

ICUK Enters Strategic Partnership with Coway International TechTrans Co., Ltd, Tsinghua University

A strategic partnership agreement has been signed between ICUK and Coway International TechTrans Co., Ltd, an international technology transfer arm of Tsinghua University. Under the agreement, an ICUK China Co-ordinator has been appointed to act as the point of contact for ICUK and to manage ICUK activities in China. The China co-ordinator will assist ICUK in promoting ICUK as a Centre of Excellence in UK-China innovation, as well as maintaining close contact with ICUK key stakeholders in China. Being one of the top technology transfer companies in China, Coway will become an ideal commercialisation partner for all ICUK partners in exploring their technologies in China.

Upcoming Events

1. China-UK Forum in Biomedical Innovation, 17-21 March 08

Initiated by Prof. Wen Wang from Queen Mary, University of London, "China-UK Forum in Biomedical Innovation" will be held in Southern Medical University, Shenzhen High-Tech Park and Suzhou Industrial Park in China. This is the first ICUK event in China and it aims to build a knowledge exchange platform to inspire joint innovation and to explore technology transfer opportunities in the field of Biomedical Sciences and Engineering. Please click [here for more information about the event](#).

2. ICUK Projects Promotion and Match-Making, 20th March 08

In an effort to further enhance commercialisation opportunities for the ICUK projects, *ICUK Projects Promotion and Match-Making* event will be hosted by the Department of International Cooperation of Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology in Suzhou in March. This event aims to build a platform for the UK and Chinese academics and potential business partners to exchange ideas, explore commercialisation potentials. According to MoST, this event will be joined by up to 50 enterprises in China along with the UK and China academics representatives.

Please click [here for more information about the event on MoST website](#).

To feedback, or unsubscribe from this newsletter, please contact [Canmei Tao](#), Knowledge Network Manager, ICUK.

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Innovation China UK (ICUK) is the first UK-China collaboration programme to promote joint innovation and knowledge transfer. ICUK is a joint initiative between the Higher Education Funding Council for England, Department for Innovation, Universities & Skills, and the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology.