

## Birmingham's brightest could win 15k

Posted on Thursday 23rd September 2010

The University of Birmingham is delighted to announce that 16 business ideas, from a variety of researchers, have been shortlisted for their chance to win 15k to help develop their research into a commercially viable opportunity.

The Enterprising Birmingham - Business Plan Competition rewards both research staff and postdoctoral researchers at the University of Birmingham who can demonstrate a great business idea based on their research.\*

The shortlisted researchers have now been invited to attend two intensive in-house training sessions; along with one additional session provided by PricewaterhouseCoopers designed to give them the considerable skills necessary to formulate a sound business plan.

The business plans submitted will be further shortlisted by a group of both internal and external specialists and the finalists will be invited to present their ideas in front of a panel of judges at the Enterprising Birmingham Showcase which will take place on 13th January, 2011. The Showcase will be a lively demonstration of the entrepreneurial spirit of the University of Birmingham and we are hoping for a large audience from both inside and outside of the University.

The Business Plan competition has been launched for the first time this year with the aim of creating new business spinouts sought from its considerable research talent.

Both the Vice Chancellor: Professor David Eastwood and Pro-Vice Chancellor of Research & Knowledge Transfer: Professor Judith Petts agree that this is an 'exciting event' for the University.

Professor Judith Petts Pro-Vice Chancellor of Research & Knowledge Transfer said, 'The university has traditionally done well in commercialisation...this is an opportunity to take our very best researchers and give them support in potentially forming new businesses that may go onto to be successful.'

If you would like to attend the showcase in January or would like more general information about the Business Plan Competition, please contact Miss Debbie White:

[d.white.3@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.white.3@bham.ac.uk) (<mailto:d.white.3@bham.ac.uk>)

Thank you to our sponsors: Central Technology Belt, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Marks & Clerk LLP, Circles of Influence Campaign, the Knowledge Transfer Development Fund and Withers & Rogers LLP.

\* Details of the shortlisted researchers below.

(order: Contact/Lead applicant, Role, School/Department)

Ali Kubba  
Doctoral Student, Mechanical Engineering

Bayode Ero-Phillips  
Doctoral Student, Metallurgy and Materials

Dr Bushra Al Duri  
Senior lecturer, Chemical Engineering

Dr Gurmel Ghataora  
Lecturer, Civil Engineering

Dr Mark D Redwood  
SCRATCH Research Fellow Unit of Functional Bionanomaterials, Biosciences

Dr Oliver Mason  
Technical Director, English, Drama and American & Canadian Studies

Rustam Stolkin  
Research Fellow, Computer Science

Dr Tim Knowles  
Post-Doctoral, Researcher Division of Cancer Studies

Tong Hao  
Research Fellow, Civil Engineering

Wai-Ling Bickerton  
Research Fellow, Psychology

Che Zulkhairi Abdullah (Zul)  
Doctoral Student, Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering.

Dr. Helen (Xiaoying) Hu  
Research Fellow, Business School

Xavier Disley  
Doctoral Student, Sport & Exercise Sciences

Dr Eleanor Quested  
Research Fellow PAPA Project, Sport & Exercise Sciences

Professor Scott Lucas  
Professor, English, Drama and American & Canadian Studies

Professor Richard Lilford  
Head of Division & Professor Division of Primary Care, Public and Occupational Health, Health & Population Sciences



