

MEDIA RELEASE

15 May 2014

Australian-Irish partnership will develop new 'smart' medical devices

Advanced medical devices will be developed through a new partnership between Dublin City University and the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Electromaterials Science (ACES).

Further strengthening a twenty year collaborative relationship, DCU will sign on as a new partner of the world leading materials research group ACES as the centre moves into a new phase of AUD\$25million funding through the Australian Government.

"The partnership will leverage Dublin City University (DCU) strengths in sensing technologies to translate research into functional 3D printed devices for medical applications with real socio-economic impact," Professor Dermot Diamond from DCU's National Centre for Sensor Research said.

"We are excited to be able to take our collaborative research with DCU to a new level as ACES enters a new phase of funding that allows us to develop new dimensions in our research, training and social engagement programs," ACES Director, Professor Gordon Wallace said.

Described as BioPrinting, the process of 3D printing devices compatible with the human body is an area of expertise of the ACES group in Australia. The ACES lead organisation, the University of Wollongong, houses a world class fabrication facility and boasts internationally renowned experts including DCU graduate Dr Stephen Beirne.

"World class 3D printing facilities are a tremendous catalyst to forge world class collaborative research programs that can tackle complex multidiscipline research challenges," Professor Wallace said.

The results of the partnership will include production of intelligent monitoring systems for both wearable and implantable devices. The development of wearable systems that enable real time monitoring of sweat composition has applications in sports training and in medical diagnostics.

An event showcasing the Australian-European connections in emerging 3D printed bio-compatible technologies will be held at the Australian Embassy in Dublin on the 15th May.

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Media Opportunity

3D BioPrint Showcase Event including live 3D Printing demonstrations

15 May 2014, 4.30-6.30pm

Australian Embassy, Ireland 7th floor, Fitzwilton House, Wilton Terrace, Dublin 2

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Speakers:

- **Ambassador Ruth Adler**, Australian Ambassador to Ireland
- **Professor Gordon Wallace**, ACES
- **Professor Dermot Diamond**, Dublin City University

Interviews with the speakers can be arranged. Please contact:

- Paul Caball, Research Officer, Australian Embassy Dublin on +353 1 6645312 or
- Natalie Foxon Phillips, ACES Communication and Media Officer, on +61 2 4221 3239.

FAST FACTS

The ARC Centre of Excellence for Electromaterials Science is a multidisciplinary research group with a focus on developing functional devices for applications including batteries, solar cells and systems that interact with living tissue.

Led by Australian Laureate Fellow Professor Gordon Wallace, ACES has recently been awarded renewed Federal Government funding of AUD\$25million to take effect from June 30, 2014.

ACES Organisations:**Administrating Organisation**

University of Wollongong

Collaborating Organisations

Monash University

Deakin University

University of Tasmania

The University of Melbourne

The Australian National University

Partner Organisations

Dublin City University, Ireland

University of Warwick, UK

Friedrich Alexander University of Erlangen, Nuremburg,
Germany

Hanyang University, Korea

Yokohama National University, Japan