

THE AWARDS 2020

Knowledge Exchange/Transfer Initiative of the Year

Institution name	University of Dundee
Submission title or project name	Successful Partnerships between Academia and Industry through Responsive Collaboration – The Division of Signal Transduction Therapy
Nominee/key personnel	Dr Paul Davies, General Manager DSTT and MRC PPU; Professor Dario Alessi, Director MRC PPU; Dr James Hastie, Manager MRC PPU Reagents and Services.
URL	
Submission	<p>The Division of Signal Transduction Therapy, or DSTT, was established in 1998 as a unique scientific collaboration between academia and industry. The primary purpose of the DSTT is to conduct pre-competitive research and to encourage development of new drug treatments for global diseases such as cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, and Parkinson’s Disease.</p> <p>The DSTT continues to push forward and build upon its impactful work developing scientific technologies and reagents. Over the last few years, this element has become hugely successful and has become a separate entity, MRC PPU Reagents and Services, which employs 26 full time scientists and technicians, a genuine commercial research organisation within an academic framework.</p> <p>In the 2018/19 year, the service developed a partnership with a Scottish farm to develop a rapid antibody service using sheep. These two elements have permitted a swift response to the covid-19 pandemic with research tools already available for the scientific community.</p>