

# THE AWARDS 2020

## Knowledge Exchange/Transfer Initiative of the Year

<b>Institution name</b>	University of the West of Scotland
<b>Submission title or project name</b>	UWS and Thales: saving lives with a ground-breaking AI drone technology partnership
<b>Nominee/key personnel</b>	Qi Wang, Jose Alcaraz-Calero
<b>URL</b>	<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-50262650">https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-50262650</a>
<b>Submission</b>	<p>UWS's unique AI collaboration with multinational firm Thales, could save lives by identifying missing people and providing warnings about buildings at risk of collapse.</p> <p>The partnership, facilitated by Innovation Centre, CENSIS, has developed ground-breaking AI technology deployed in Police Scotland's remotely piloted aircraft systems (RPAS), which can find missing people in remote rural areas.</p> <p>The system uses advanced cameras and neural computer networks to spot someone it is searching for, identifying individuals who appear as a 'speck' in the distance. The technology is the first of its kind used by police forces in the UK, providing real-time image analysis to identify humans.</p> <p>UWS has since been able to build a remarkable 20-strong international academic team, providing the UK economy with artificial intelligence-driven business solutions. Dr Barry Connor, from Thales, said: "This project demonstrates the benefits of AI and machine learning in saving people's lives."</p>