

know**ledge**

Knowledge transfer – what's in it for academics?

Apply your knowledge, expertise and research to real, strategic commercial or social problems.

What is knowledge transfer?

The aim of knowledge transfer (KT) is to encourage innovation and improve the effectiveness of a business or organisation through collaboration with a university.

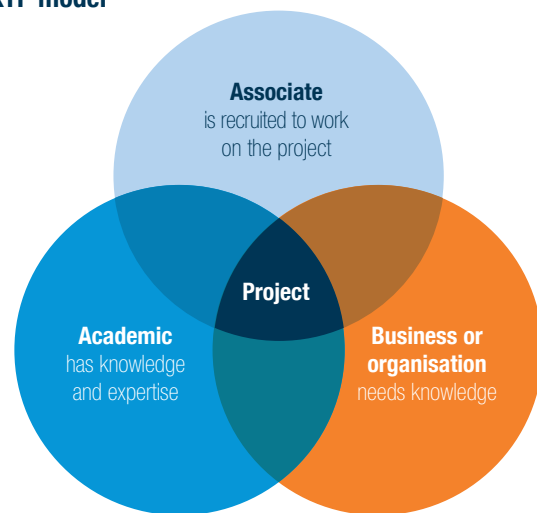
Kingston University has been actively engaged with KT since 1992 and has facilitated approximately 90 long-term partnerships, valued at more than £10 million. We run several different knowledge transfer schemes, including the government-funded Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs), one of Europe's largest graduate recruitment programmes.



Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Businesses, charity and public sector organisations often require external expert advice and research-based support to help solve strategic problems. KTPs create a three-way partnership between an organisation and academic who both supervise an outstanding graduate (known as an Associate) who is recruited to manage the project. Projects last from six months – three years.

The KTP model



'In the built environment, the way forward is through innovative collaboration and knowledge transfer: something that benefits all parties involved and the industry as a whole.'

Stephen Pretlove, Director of Archilab, FADA's Architectural Science and Technology Laboratory which completed a very successful KTP with Clive Chapman Architects in 2010. As a result of the partnership, the company now offers a complete sustainability consultancy and has enjoyed an increase in reputation and clients.

Ideas, research and expertise to benefit your organisation

How do academics benefit?

- The project funding covers supervision time averaging at one half day per week — £12,000 pa.
- Academic knowledge is applied within a new context and commercial awareness is enhanced.
- The entire income, totalling nearly £120,000 for two-year KTP, is REF eligible.
- Conference papers and articles in journals are a common output.
- There may be opportunities for further involvement, such as case studies, placements, jobs and consultancy.
- Use real industry challenges to enrich future teaching and research.
- You can earn £1,000 a month income for your department which can be used, at the discretion of the Head of School, to support your involvement in this project.
- It is an opportunity to establish new connections with the industry that relates to your field and increase networking opportunities within the KTP-active academic community.
- You will receive the friendly, practical support and assistance of the Enterprise Support department, which has a 95% success rate with grant proposals. This leaves you to concentrate on the main purpose of the KTPs.
- Supervision and mentoring of a talented graduate. 80% of KTP Associates are offered full time employment with their host organisation.

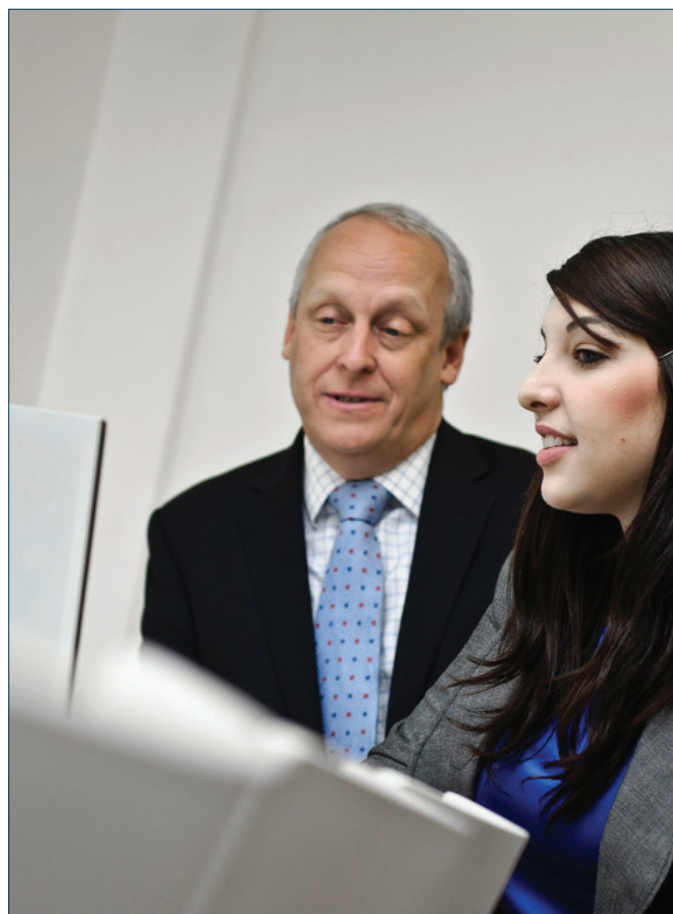


'Working in partnership with academics at Kingston University gives us the additional tools with which to preserve this knowledge and share it with a wider audience.'

Professor Richard Lane, Director of Science at the Natural History Museum talking about 'Museum Lives' – an oral history project recording and documenting nearly 1,000 years of experience revealing life behind the scenes at one of the UK's most famous institutions.



© Natural History Museum



How does knowledge transfer differ from research projects and consultancy?

- There are similarities to research projects in that there is a process of investigating aspects of the issue, identifying options, trialling and evaluating.
- KTPs additionally place emphasis on the implementation and embedding process, to ensure that the organisation has the capability to adopt and take forward the outcomes. A KTP must demonstrate clear, quantifiable impact on the organisation.
- KTP does not primarily involve new knowledge but the application of knowledge.
- If the knowledge base wishes to retain the IP to exploit in the future, consultancy may be a preferable route.

Further information

Find out about the latest schemes and information at kingston.ac.uk/services-for-business or ktonline.org.uk

To find out more, contact your Faculty Business Development Manager or the Enterprise Support department based at Swan House on 020 8417 3045.

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