2015-12-04

Putting Ideas Into Practice- the New Greenway Hub.

Irish Times Newspaper

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Putting ideas into practice

The new Greenway Hub at Dublin Institute of Technology is located at the heart of the new campus with innovation as its lifeblood.

“Entrepreneurship is at the core of the organisation: entrepreneurs being in the middle of the campus rather than at the edge,” explains Norton. “They’re very practically oriented but also very informed by context and research. You offer great academic and research but practice-based and research is quite an interesting combination.”

To further tie ideas with industry and its focus on innovation, DIT is planning a collaborative, interdisciplinary, multi-storey research and science park at the entrance to the campus at Broadstone. The complex, which is expected to be completed and occupied by 2019, is one of the highest-ranking areas in Ireland as a result. And, 1,400 people are currently working in our spin outs.”

Locating the Greenway Hub—a new building staffed by experts in research and innovation and incorporating incubation space for start-ups at the geographic centre of the Citywest campus—is a clear indication of the importance of entrepreneurship to Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT).

“The purpose of the Hothouse is innovation and technology transfer office responsible for commercialising intellectual property arising from research at the institution. According to Norton, since being set up in 2007, it has consistently outperformed other Irish university technology transfer offices, completing up to 20pc of the annual commercial technology transfer licences in Ireland. And, through its Enterprise Ireland-funded incubation programmes, it has helped create nearly 200 sustainable businesses that have attracted €1.1bn in equity investment.”

“We have a policy that unless there’s another agreement in place, intellectual property belongs to colleagues and students as of right,” says Norton. “It’s very much encouraging the identification and disclosure and protection of intellectual property and we have...