A new vehicle to facilitate academic/industry interactions in Cambridge

Prof Tony Kouzarides will give a short presentation to highlight opportunities for academics to collaborate with pharmaceutical and biotech companies, facilitated by the Milner Institute.

The talk will be followed by refreshments and networking.

The mission of the Milner Therapeutics Institute is to connect the intellectual know-how of academic institutions in Cambridge with the drug-development capacity of industry to deliver better therapies.

This will be achieved through:

- A world-leading Therapeutics Institute dedicated to the conversion of science into therapies
- An outreach programme, the Therapeutics Consortium, which will (a) connect laboratories throughout Cambridge with industry and (b) develop innovative projects to be considered for joint funding by industry.

Therapeutics Institute. The Institute will house independent research groups, still to be appointed, in the new Capella building currently under construction on the Biomedical Campus. The Institute will also house a communally accessible core facility, which will be available to academic and industry partners of the Consortium. The Institute is expected to be operational in 2018.

Therapeutics Consortium. This represents the outreach programme of the Institute. It has been active since June 2015 and currently operates from the Gurdon Institute but will be housed at the Milner Institute when completed. The consortium is based on an agreement signed by three academic centers in Cambridge, (Cambridge University, Sanger Institute and Babraham Institute) and four pharmaceutical companies (Astex, AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline and Shionogi).

The key features of the consortium are:

- An agreement to facilitate the speedy exchange of reagents and information between partners in all therapeutic areas
- The appointment of a dedicated executive to oversee academic/company project engagement
- The development of innovative ideas that would push forward therapeutic boundaries, which will be considered for common funding by industrial partners.

The outreach program of the Institute also involves an Affiliated Company Partnership Scheme, which allows engagement with service and product providers (both local and international) that are developing tools to advance therapeutic development. The Institute will encourage and coordinate interactions of affiliated companies with the pharmaceutical and academic partners, towards communal project development.

Please come and hear how you can benefit from the outreach program of the Milner Therapeutics Institute.