Collaboration with business & society: KU Leuven

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Europe’s most innovative university

- Reuters ranks KU Leuven as Europe's most innovative university in its top 100 of innovative European universities (2016 and 2017).

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Reuters top 100: Europe's most innovative universities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. KU Leuven</td>
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<td>2. Imperial College London</td>
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<td>3. University of Cambridge</td>
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<td>4. Technical University of Munich</td>
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<td>5. École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne</td>
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<td>6. University of Erlangen Nuremberg</td>
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<td>7. Université Pierre et Marie Curie</td>
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<td>8. Delft University of Technology</td>
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<td>9. University of Zurich</td>
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<td>10. University of Oxford</td>
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Features that have proven to be important to us …

- Time
  - For the TTO being around
  - For the actions of some of the members of the university government to “drip down”
- Full (and active!) endorsement of the university top
- Tell the story
- Start with what is within reach
A wide range of possibilities: what is within reach?

- Gatekeeping (two way street)
- Use of infrastructure & facilities
- Consultancy: expert opinions / analysis
- Feasibility studies / simulations
- (Clinical) trials
- Joint R&D: bi- or multilateral
- Licensing: patents, software, materials, …
- Spin-offs, joint ventures, …
Features that have proven to be important to us ...(2)

• Incentive for researchers (↔ promotion criteria)
• … and also investments by the institution (policy choice!)
  o In the TTO
  o In incubation / proof-of-concept
• Reality check: vast majority of partnerships find their origin at researchers’ level – but you can help to create opportunities
• Access to early stage breakthroughs: close relationship
Major challenges - how to deal with them?

• Business (and society) is speeding up: our answer: one stop shop
• Interdisciplinary research vs. “walls” of faculties
• Flexible terms and constructions: may very over time (content, volume, …) BUT continuity required regarding the university policies & strategy!
• More and more: concentration of research partners