

RESEARCH INTO KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER PRACTICE



“Research into Practice” is exploring research into approaches for developing a better understanding of Knowledge Transfer (KT).

Why the Institute of Knowledge Transfer (IKT)?

One of IKT's main aims is to develop and promote KT as a profession in its own right. There are some 12,500 KT practitioners in the UK public and private sectors from a variety of backgrounds engaged in knowledge transfer or exchange activities. These range from technology transfer to community engagement and social enterprise, and covering a broad range of disciplines from science and engineering to arts, humanities, creative arts and heritage. KT is also becoming a key strand and focus of UK universities, public sector research, arts organisations and business.

IKT is committed to:

- encouraging, supporting and disseminating academic research into KT and sees this as a fundamental contribution to progressing professional practice of KT in areas that impact on the delivery of effective KT services
- working across boundaries of academic research and practitioners to improve the positioning and understanding of the role of the IKT professional.

Why do we need Research into Practice?

We need to understand the issues that arise from and underpin our KT activities and assess their impact, in economic, social, and cultural terms. Understanding them will help to inform the future shape and direction of KT, as well as supporting relationships and interactions among KT ‘actors’ and stakeholders, including government and business.

Research into KT, innovation & enterprise is ad hoc and apparently disconnected across a range of disciplines. Opportunities for academics to get together to share ideas and interact with each other are limited, and dissemination routes are fragmented.

The IKT is therefore looking to:

- create opportunities for academics to network and connect with leading-edge KT practitioners and other researchers
- lead and participate in new leading-edge research
- access potential funding sources
- create and manage new dissemination and publication (in its widest sense)
- help to map KT's research base underpinning and look at future research needs.

IKT is organising a series of research seminars (shown right) based on themes of interest to academics, KT practitioners and business. Each seminar will include invited papers and presentations on relevant case studies and research experiences. IKT aims to develop an on-line journal and/or a book to provide opportunities and new channels for dissemination for the results of research through its publications and community networks.

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Aims

In promoting academic underpinning, IKT's aims are to:

- promote and develop networks and interactions among academics, KT practitioners, policy-makers and funders in the UK & internationally;
- catalyse, showcase and disseminate new research programmes and activities relevant to the emerging discipline of KT;
- develop and supply the evidence that supports the development of the theoretical base of KT;
- develop a body of knowledge for KT to underpin its development as a discipline and profession in its own right; and
- progress the professional development of KT practitioners.

Seminar Dates

- **4th June 2009** - Arts and Humanities Knowledge Transfer event. To be held at 76 Portland Place London

Further Details

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