



Annual Report 2022

Breaking new ground

After emerging from the unprecedented challenges of the global pandemic stronger and more resilient, 2021-2022 was a period of pipeline building, realising historic investments, and exciting advancements from many of our pioneering spinouts.

At the end of the financial year, we had 22 therapeutics in our clinical-stage pipeline, with five products already launched: a portfolio that many large biotech or pharma companies would be proud to have. Indeed Valoctocogene Roxaparvovec (Roctavian), a gene therapy to treat adults with severe Haemophilia A, developed by UCL's Professor Amit Nathwani and his team, and licensed by UCLB to BioMarin in 2013, has subsequently been approved for use in Europe and the USA.

This financial year also saw the sale of two UCLB spinouts from the Department of Computer Science. Satalia, specialising in Artificial Intelligence solutions for supply chain logistics and other optimisation challenges, was sold to WPP Group in August 2021. Meanwhile, Re:infer, a UCLB spinout developing AI-based business productivity tools, was acquired by UiPath, a NASDAQ-listed software company.

There were also a number of successful investment rounds secured by our spinout companies. Bramble Energy Ltd, a spinout from the Department of Chemical Engineering, secured a £35m Series B investment round. This forward-thinking company is doing ground breaking work in technologies to produce low cost and highly scalable hydrogen fuel cell stacks for use in marine and mobility applications.

Elsewhere, Quell Therapeutics, a spinout from the Department of Infection and Immunity, announced a \$156m oversubscribed Series B financing to advance its pioneering multimodular engineered T Regulatory cell therapy pipeline and platform, while NovalGen, a spinout biopharmaceutical company from the Cancer Institute, developed a breakthrough cancer therapy, and posted positive Phase 1/2 clinical trial results for its lead bi-specific antibody NVG-111 at a high-profile oncology meeting.

Meanwhile, Orchard Therapeutics, a UCLB spinout and global gene therapy leader from the UCL Institute of Child Health, announced it had reached an agreement with the NHS that enables access to Libmeldy® (atidarsagene autotemcel) for all children with metachromatic leukodystrophy (MLD) in England and Wales who fall within the scope of the European marketing authorisation.

There's also been welcome recognition for Apollo Therapeutics which, at the annual Praxis Auril KE Awards, picked up Deal of the Year for attracting major investment to empower a unique, multi-university portfolio-based biopharmaceuticals development and commercialisation venture.

More broadly, the portfolio of assets managed by UCLB, has grown, with a further 96 novel opportunities arising from UCL's research base being added to the pipeline. UCLB's vision to make a difference through the innovative ideas from UCL was also supported by the UCL Technology Fund 2 (UTF2) securing its second close.

There are also now more ways than ever for UCL academics seeking to embark on an enterprise journey to secure financial assistance to develop their ideas, including internal funding from UCL, via I&E and the TRO, and via UCLB's own funding routes, including our Commercial Proof of Concept Fund, Social Ventures Proof of Concept Fund, Seed Investments Fund, or the UCL Technology Fund.

Looking ahead, we are seeking to build on our achievements and IP commercialisation initiatives to create a diverse project portfolio drawn from across UCL's 11 faculties, which are seeking to develop solutions to solve the world's biggest problems.

In total, UCLB's activities have resulted in £3.57m being distributed back to the university this year, which helps to fund further cutting-edge research. After several years of investment into spinouts and licences that are now producing returns, we have achieved a sustainable model which will continue to deliver benefits to UCL whether financial, economic or societal.

We'd like to thank the outstanding UCL academics and UCLB staff for all their hard work in making this financial year a success.

Anne Lane, CEO & David Hunter, Chairman



Financial summary

Income analysis for	2021/2022 £'000	2020/2021 £'000
Royalties and intellectual property income	6,172	6,980
Spinout exit (realised)	6,639	25,212
Fair value gain/(loss) on quoted investments	(2,185)	(4,174)
Services to UCL	1,350	1,500
Research and Proof of Concept funding	2,692	4,281
Other	2,624	2,409
Total	17,292	36,208
Realised (without FV adj)	19,476	40,382

Expenditure analysis for	2021/2022 £'000	2020/2021 £'000
Patent costs	1,646	1,765
Distributions to academics and external parties	2,632	6,151
Distributions to UCL	3,574	5,980
Research and consultancy	3,054	4,619
Operating costs (staff and other costs)	6,038	5,625
Total	16,944	24,140

The above figures represent the trading performance of UCL Business Ltd. Figures include the fair value gains / (losses) on quoted investments and exclude the cost of impairments on investments and loans during the period and exclude the cost of pension adjustments.