ASTP Annual Conference

21-23 May 2025

Vilnius, Lithuania

2025 Annual Conference Programme

Key Figures

325 Attendees

200+ Organisations
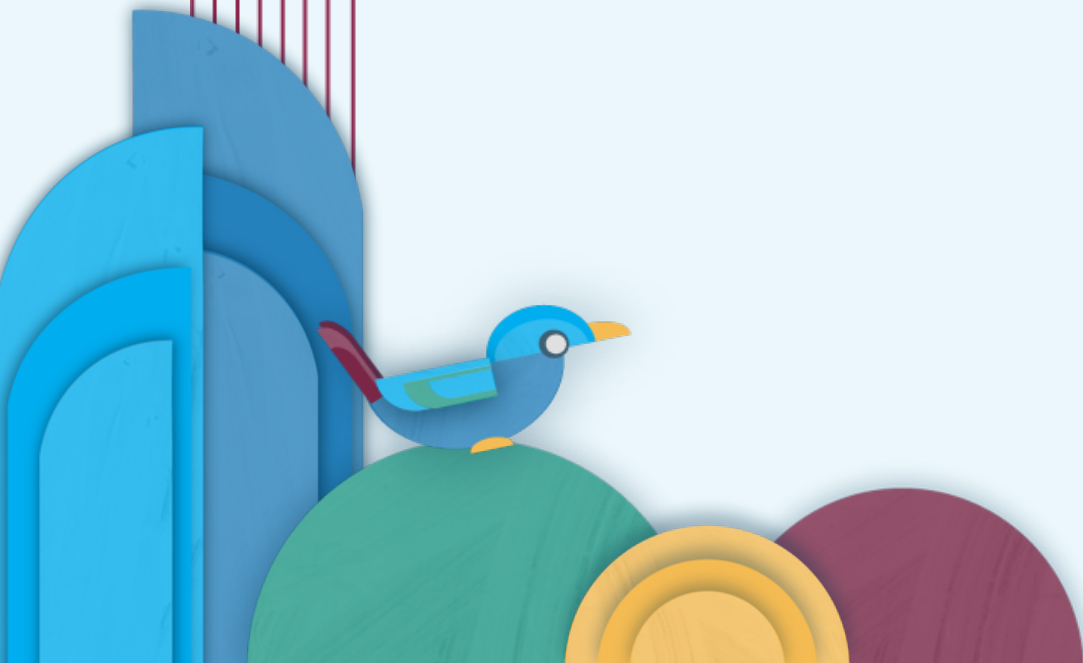
37 Countries

77 Speakers

DAY 1

Wednesday 21st May

Masterclass:
Conflict of Interest

Founding academics are vital to the business in the early years but few leave their posts within the university. It is better for the company and the university, and the academic, if they keep a close association with both. However, this entails the academic wearing multiple 'hats' and creates the potential for damaging conflict-of-interest situations. What are the main sources of conflict, what problems can they cause and what is the KTO's role in minimising, avoiding or managing these conflicts?

SPEAKER

Jeff Skinner

Enhancing Societal Valorisation through Impact Licensing: Tools and Strategies for Universities and Technology Transfer Offices

This workshop focuses on socially responsible and impact licensing as key tools for the societal valorization of research and innovation. The ILI Horizon Europe CSA Project is developing a suite of instruments to facilitate the adoption of impact licensing across the EU. One of the main tools is the quality label for impact licensing agreements, which will be showcased through use cases, highlighting how universities can implement it to demonstrate their commitment to societal valorization.

Additionally, the session will introduce the impact licensing builder, a tool that helps technology holders select clauses in impact licensing agreements aligned with socially responsible guidelines. We will also present a screening tool designed to assess the societal valorization potential of technologies, with a focus on alignment with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. Lastly, the workshop will cover the development of an IP Pool for technologies intended for humanitarian crises, explaining how impact licensing facilitates access to technologies that comply with humanitarian principles.

The session will be interactive, inviting feedback and suggestions from the audience on how these instruments can optimize societal valorization pathways within their KTOs/TTOs or universities.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Ivana Vuka | Johan Moyersoen | Bruno Vandermeulen

Spin-off SIG | NAAC report on Exploring Trends and Strategies to Enhance Spin-off Processes

Presentation and discussion of the key results from NAAC report. Focused discussion of IP transfer to spin-offs, current status of best practice and spin-off friendly terms

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Sally Cudmore | Michael Karle | Florian Kirschenhofer

Join us to take the BioMedical SIG to the next level!

The BioMedical SIG was launched in June 2024 and is already a success. We are a group of more than 100 knowledge transfer professionals from more than 26 countries.

We had more than 90 participants at our kick-off. During our first webinar series (From Bench to Bedside) we had more than 70 participants on average and, most importantly, very interesting discussions.

All this means that we are building a true community, and we want to take it further, bigger and more impactful.

During this workshop, participants will select roadblocks to bring scientific research to society, and propose actions thereof to tackle them.These actions will be part of the SIG activities for the upcoming academic year.

Volunteers to implement these actions will be welcomed!

Join us for an open discussion where we will explore the next steps and objectives for our SIG. We look forward to hearing your insights and contributions!

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

David Silvestre | Julia Gauglitz

Masterclass:
When things go wrong: dealing with disputes in collaborations

Sometimes a collaboration will not end happily. There might be a violation of the contract terms, a different interpretation of the wording, or contradictory views on a key issue (e.g. IP ownership). Whatever the problem, it will almost certainly lead to unpleasant conversations and will require difficult negotiation to reach an agreement that provides a resolution.

In the session, you will be presented with some real-life scenarios and given a role to play in trying to resolve these, in an interactive workshop. Following the scenario exercises, the moderator will lead a discussion on how best to deal with the difficult real-world challenges that exist in dealing with commercial disputes, which, by their nature, are often stressful, subject to sudden changes and highly visible within the organisation.

The key aims of this interactive session are to enable peer-to-peer learning and to share some practical insights and frameworks, based on industrial experience, on how best to deal with these difficult and sometimes confrontational situations.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Mark Wilson | Martin Raditsch

AFTERNOON WORKSHOP

Digital Innovations SIG
"Deep Dive"- Expanding the Conversations

We are pleased to invite you to an interactive workshop that builds upon the discussions initiated at the 2024 Annual Conference in Sevilla. This workshop offers participants the opportunity to further explore critical challenges in knowledge transfer related to software and digital innovation.

Participants will engage with one of the key topics in digital innovation:
- Business Models
- Open Source
- Data Protection, Licensing and Valorisation
- Know-how

Prior to attending, we ask each participant to select one of the above focus areas and prepare a brief case study from your institution's experience that illustrate how you addressed one or more challenges in that focus area.

During this collaborative 90-minute session, participants will:
- Divide into topic-based groups
- Select one compelling case study per group for in-depth analysis
- Collaboratively develop "best practice" recommendations for the selected cases
- Time permitting, visit other discussion groups in a "World Café" format
- Share findings and recommendations with all workshop attendees

We recognize that a 90-minute workshop can only scratch the surface of these complex topics. For focus areas generating significant interest, we aim to establish ongoing task forces to continue the discussions throughout the year to develop more comprehensive recommendations.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Sigmar Lampe | Annemieke de Raad | Marcelo Estrella

SHAPE SIG | Tackling Challenges in SHAPE Valorisation

In this practical, hands-on session, we'll work on actual cases from SHAPE/SSHA disciplines, explore their impact potential, and discuss different valorisation approaches. The workshop will be mediated by the SHAPE Impact Kollektiv, a group of international impact and commercialisation experts for the social sciences, humanities and arts.
Of course, you can bring along your own projects and any challenges you're currently facing with them so we can tackle them together! To submit cases for the project clinic or key valorisation challenges that you'd like to address, please email our SHAPE SIG lead, Frida Koslowski, at frida@kindlingventures.com

SPEAKER

Frida Koslowski

A Leap In Time: the Patent Game that tries to lower the fear of patents and encourages innovative thinking

When did you last read a patent? Did you enjoy reading it? Did you think it was worth your time and more importantly, did you feel like you read an intelligence document? Patents were created "To Promote the Progress of Science and Serious Arts..." (1st Patent Statuette, 1790), yet for many of us it doesn't feel so. They are seen as long and complex documents and many scientists are unaware or uninterested to explore the potential that comes with reading patent documents(Donal, Kabir & Donald, 2018).

This workshop will focus on an intervention that has at its core the agenda of "Making Patent reading Great again". The innovative approach that we have deployed is in the form of a digital escape room game – LeapIntime: The Patent Game. The workshop will allow participants to play the digital game in teams followed by a post-game debrief on that will also highlight the impact of this intervention so far. Moreover, we even trigger innovative thinking by allowing you to innovate around the existing in-game patent (taken from a real-world patent) so that one does not see patents as dead-end walls but opportunities to solve the given problem differently.

This workshop is limited to only 25 attendees, and spots will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. We encourage you to bring your laptop to fully engage in the session.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Rajiv Vaid Basalawmolt | Taru Deva.
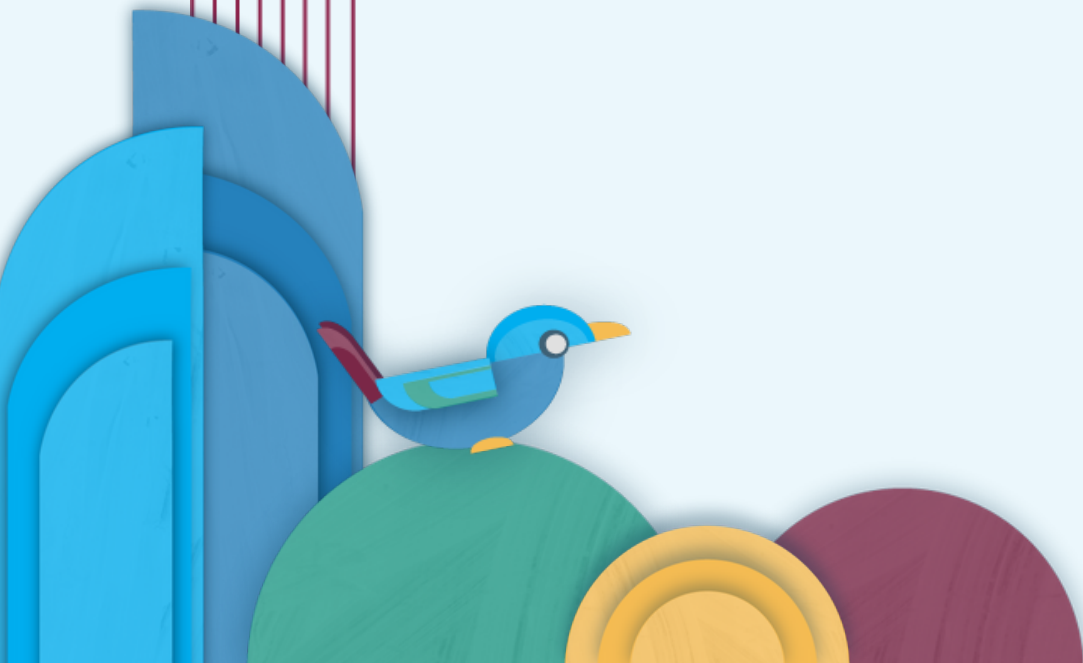
Train the Trainer

This interactive workshop welcomes anyone involved or interested in delivering Knowledge and Technology Transfer (KT/TT) training. Whether you're new to training or an experienced facilitator, join us to exchange ideas, explore new approaches, and strengthen the ASTP professional development committee through collaboration and shared learning.

SPEAKER

Jeff Skinner

DAY 2

Thursday 22nd May

DAY 2

Thursday 22nd May

CONFERENCE OPENS

Welcome by ASTP President, Art Bos, and a few words from Amanda Zeffman, Chair of the Programming Committee.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Art Bos | Amanda Zeffmann

OPENING PLENARY

Welcome to Lithuania

In this premier conference session, we get the latest news from the Lithuanian knowledge and technology transfer ecosystem.

SPEAKER

Zita Duchovskienė

KEYNOTE

25 Year of Knowledge Transfer: now what?

Silvia is the first female Rector Magnificus at the Eindhoven University of Technology in the Netherlands. Before assuming this position in May 2023, Silvia served as the Vice-Rector of Valorisation at the University of Antwerpen, where she led the University's TTO and knowledge transfer initiatives.
Silvia Lenaerts is also a renowned innovator and entrepreneur. She founded a gas sensor company and sits on the boards of various companies and organisations. She is a KU Leuven graduate and holds a PhD in chemistry. Join us for an engaging conversation with Silvia about innovation, knowledge and technology transfer, leadership in technical universities, the future direction of TTOs, and much more. This is your opportunity to ask the Rector of the Eindhoven University of Technology the questions you wish you could ask your own rector.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Silvia Lenaerts | Karen Laigaard

Track 1: Generative AI and Knowledge Transfer – innovations, challenges and direction

It is almost twelve months since a seminal panel presentation at AUTM described the early work undertaken by NYU Langone (w/University of Glasgow) on AI led transformation of their TTO. The innovations, challenges and direction of travel of AI transformation as experienced from a selection of KT offices and businesses will be shared and discussed.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Declan Weldon | Dvorah Graeser | Christian Stein | Brechtje Vreenegoor

Track 2: Patient Data - Navigating Innovation and Ethics

In today's rapidly evolving healthcare landscape, where biology, medicine, engineering, mathematics, physics and IT converge, patient data stands as the cornerstone of groundbreaking innovation. As AI revolutionises diagnostics, drug development, and health outcomes, the potential of patient-driven insights grows exponentially. The use of patient data at a large scale presents novel ethical, legal, scientific, medical, and economic complexities and opportunities. This session aims to provide actionable insights for the successful development of innovative technologies based on patient data. We will discuss their full potential, showcasing real-world applications, intellectual property and licensing practices, and commercialisation pathways.
Through expert-led talks and dynamic discussions, we will gain deeper insights into ethically leveraging patient data to tackle pressing health challenges.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Olivier Van Raemdonck | Charles Groffils | Miguel Angel Armengol de la Hoz | Borja Moll

Track 3: Vanity Metrics?

The focus on the number of spin-outs emerging from our research institutions seems to be ever-increasing. We hardly discuss license deals with established companies or the numerous research collaboration agreements between academia and industry. Why is that? Where does this focus come from? Management? Government? Researchers seeking alternative career paths?

Research institutions often place IP in the hands of barely existing spin-outs created by inexperienced entrepreneurs who receive varying levels of support from their TTOs. Are spin-outs always the best option for the valorisation of university IP, or do TTOs feel compelled to follow this path? What criteria are used to determine the valorisation route?

New spin-out policies and standardised deal terms have emerged in response to criticism from funders, VCs, and researchers. Some institutions have introduced express licences to stimulate entrepreneurial interest. In this workshop, we will discuss whether we are creating spin-outs for the right reasons or if our spin-outs mostly serve as "vanity metrics."

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Laura Spinardi | Karen Laigaard

FirstIgnite

Leveraging AI to generate industry collaborations for research funding and licensing. During this presentation you will learn how to use AI to identify the market applications, companies and contacts that are most aligned to partner with your research.

SPEAKER: Chase Bonhag

Wellspring

For academic institutions and government agencies to forward-thinking corporations bringing products to market. Wellspring is the premier innovation and IP management partner that bridges the gap between research and commercialization, activating opportunities and driving growth. We deliver solutions that simplify complex processes, from initial discovery to market success, giving our customers the ability to innovate more effectively and efficiently. To learn more about Wellspring and its suite of innovation technology products, please visit wellspring.com to check out the new brand and innovation stories that transform tomorrow.

SPEAKER: Mat Kilbey

Netval - Knowledge Share

Knowledge Share is an Innovation matchmaking platform having the mission to make the match of innovation demand and offer between Business and Academia easier. Its brand-new IT architecture allows to easily scale up the ecosystem at an International level, granting a consolidated user base and the possibility to publish any research results on the platform's walls (spinoffs, patents, plant varieties, software, collaboration opportunities,…). Users can get directly in touch with the research teams with just a few clicks and look for their innovation needs thanks to the AI algorithms. Knowledge Share partners are Netval, Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy, and Politecnico di Torino.

SPEAKER: Federico Novembrini

Maximizing Spin-Offs from Academia and R&D Centers: A Proven Methodology

Many discoveries never reach the market because researchers aren't entrepreneurs — a challenge for TTOs. The Commercialization Reactor has addressed this for 15 years, helping 30+ TTOs launch 160+ Deep Tech startups and raise €17M+ in early funding, with one exit to Schaeffler. At its core is the award-winning "Creation-to-Capital Cycle," pairing scientists with entrepreneurs and offering tailored support.
This session shares key insights, investor input, and upcoming programmes to help researchers commercialise without leaving academia.

SPEAKER: Nikolai Adamovitch

PhotonHub Phactory

SPEAKER: Robert Harrison

ASTP and active EU projects: Laura MacDonald CEO ASTP

Come along and hear a quick overview of the current EU projects where ASTP is fully engaged- helping develop new resources, contributing to KT policy recommendations and partnering with great collaborators to promote the interests of the KT sector. The Commission has been pushing support across a wide range of actions all aimed at supporting our sector. This KSE slot will highlight current opportunities to get involved, to access resources and have your voice heard!

SPEAKER: Laura MacDonald

Melting in the Same Pot: Newcomers' Perspectives from Academia, Charity, Industry, and Venture Capital on Knowledge Transfer

Knowledge transfer (KT) connects academia, charity, industry, and venture capital to drive innovation and societal impact. As LifeArc Knowledge Transfer Innovation Fellows, we bring diverse sector perspectives and explore how our backgrounds shape our approaches to KT.

This session will cover:
- Academia: Balancing research and commercialisation
- Charity: Prioritising public benefit and inclusion
- Industry: Managing IP and strategic partnerships
- Venture Capital: Scaling innovation and assessing risk

We'll also spotlight the Fellowship itself as a transformative fifth perspective — a bridge across sectors, offering tailored support and accelerating entry into KT.

Together, these insights reveal how cross-sector collaboration can enrich KT and create more inclusive, impactful outcomes.

SPEAKERS: Amelie Franken | Ana-Maria Ivanus | Kornelia Mikula | Gaston Sendin | Avlokita Tiwari.

ECOSYSTEM INSIGHTS

Shaping inclusive prosperity in the regional ecosystem | Erasmus University Rotterdam

Discover how Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR) is shaping inclusive prosperity in the regional ecosystem through a unique approach to valorization and impact. Moving beyond traditional tech transfer, EUR focuses on the power of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH). This civic approach to knowledge exchange highlights the value of research that directly benefits society. Learn about EUR's role as a civic university and the lasting impact of its work in strengthening the region. This session offers not just a presentation, but an opportunity to discuss how universities can play a pivotal role in building a more prosperous and inclusive future.

SPEAKER: Immanuel Nijssen

Boosting entrepreneurship skills for early-stage researchers

Learn how Vilnius University facilitates innovations by including entrepreneurship within the academic agendas for early-stage researchers. This approach generates better applicability perspective and greater innovation flavor of the R&D solutions developed during PhD studies. Explore Vilnius University entrepreneurship-focused practice aimed at early-stage researchers, which goes beyond Vilnius University and includes partners of university's strategic alliances.

SPEAKER: Kristina Babelytė-Labanauskė

Intellectual Asset Management For Research And Entrepreneurship – IAM4RE.EU

Despite existing efforts, there is a significant gap in early-stage support for managing intellectual assets in Public Research Organizations and academic institutions, essential for creating and strengthening spin-offs in aligning their entrepreneurial efforts with key EU guidelines and Codes of Practice. IAM4RE.eu project will introduce a comprehensive framework that goes beyond traditional IP management with development of modular educational resources, a massive open online courses, a "train-the-trainer" program, aimed at enhancing skills in knowledge valorisation, standardisation as well as producing Policy Guidelines for decision-makers supporting the transition towards more effective IA management.
Join us to explore how IAM4RE.eu is reshaping the innovation ecosystem and fostering sustainable research commercialisation.

SPEAKER: Lucija Rogina

New tools for licensing: achieving more impact from diverse research outputs

This new toolbox supports licensing in three key scenarios:
- Classical Plus: Non-traditional IP that may need new licensing approaches.
- Co-creation: Outputs from multi-stakeholder collaborations tackling complex problems.
- Crisis: Voluntary, equitable licences for urgent or long-term needs.

Discover how the toolbox and the subsidised 2026 training course can build your skills and support your professional development.

SPEAKER: Lisa Cowey

Benchmark your KTO against ASTP survey data

The ASTP Survey Committee is excited to present a demo of the new Feedback Tool. Join us in this KSE slot to explore the Power BI-based Feedback Tool, built on data submitted via the ASTP Annual Survey. This custom report presents each KTO's metrics in context, enabling meaningful self-assessment and benchmarking without compromising confidentiality. Through visualisations like boxplots, it helps identify whether your organization's outputs align with its unique mission, maturity, and focus areas. Rather than ranking success, the tool supports reflective insight and informed strategy.

SPEAKER: Olivier Gillieaux

MARVEL-UTT

Development of a self-assessment tool for performance optimisation and skills management in knowledge transfer offices.

SPEAKER: Chiara Ricca

Building Economies of Scale from Shared Tech Transfer Services – Lessons from UK pilot projects

In 2024-2025 the UK funder Research England funded pilot projects to explore models for universities to share tech transfer services. In this talk we will share some insights and learnings from 6 of these 13 projects. We will also reflect on what European university consortiums can take from this, including benefits, constraints and top tips for developing similar approaches in your country or region.

SPEAKER: Alexandra Bush

Hot SIG updates: Agrifood and EDI SIGs

SPEAKERS: Andrew Carlin and Anji Miller

INITIATIVE SHARING

INNOV-8-2-CREATE: A Scalable Model for Innovation Training and Knowledge Exchange

This session will introduce the INNOV-8-2-CREATE Toolkit, a practical resource designed to help universities, technology transfer offices, and innovation stakeholders implement structured innovation training. Developed through an EU-funded initiative, the toolkit provides guidance on building commercialisation pathways, supporting innovators, and fostering impactful knowledge exchange across sectors. The session will explore key toolkit components, including self-assessment tools, programme design, scalability strategies, and best practices for fostering inclusive innovation ecosystems.

SPEAKER: Deborah Mireles

Empowering TTOs - Impact through Standards

In 2023, the European Commission recommended making TTOs fit for standardisations.
In response, an informal working group was established within ASTP to clarify the importance of TTOs engaging with standards. This group aims to identify questions for national standardization bodies and universities, raise researchers' awareness of standardization as a means of knowledge valorisation, and provide guidance to TTOs on best practices.
The next step involves transforming the informal working group into a dedicated Special Interest Group. If you are interested in participating, we warmly invite you to join us.

SPEAKER: Katrin Fladischer

Assessing & Advancing Capacity for the Commercialisation of Global Health Research at Higher Education Institutions.

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) play a critical role in health research and innovation, yet many HEIs — particularly in Africa — face significant challenges in translating early-stage research into commercially viable public health products. This gap, often referred to as the "valley of death", is exacerbated by fragmented innovation ecosystems, limited commercialisation knowledge and skills, and unclear pathways for translating research into impact. The FLIGHT (Framework for Leveraging Innovation in Global Health Technologies) project aims to address these challenges by enhancing the capacity of HEIs to convert health R&D assets into deployable health interventions that drive societal and economic impact.

The project also seeks to develop an Innovation and Enterprise Framework to strengthen institutional approaches to R&D commercialisation and translational research.

As a foundational step, we conducted a baseline capacity assessment across partner institutions using a mixed-methods approach. This assessment combined literature reviews, quantitative surveys, qualitative interviews, and focus group discussions with HEI academic and non-academic staff, and Early Career Researchers to evaluate existing public health R&D assets, commercialisation knowledge, skills, and attitudes, institutional support systems, and key barriers and opportunities for strengthening innovation pathways.

This session will share the FLIGHT team's baseline assessment methodology, early insights into institutional capacities and lessons learned in identifying gaps and opportunities to improve innovation and translational research capacity. The presentation will also highlight how these insights are informing the development of FLIGHT's Innovation and Enterprise Framework.

SPEAKERS: Ezekiel Boro | Charles McLoughlin

Track 1: David vs Goliath: Knowledge Valorisation in action

The European Commission's Guiding Principles for Knowledge Valorisation and the related Codes of Practice promise a stronger innovation landscape—but policies alone don't move mountains. Their true power lies in how they inspire action. As frameworks become practices, and practices reshape systems, even deeply rooted institutional and policy structures can evolve.

This session explores how KT professionals can leverage this shifting policy environment to drive meaningful change. Are the Guiding Principles sparking concrete actions? Can bottom-up initiatives stimulate national ecosystems? Join us for a thought-provoking dialogue on turning ambition into impact—and reshaping the innovation landscape, one determined step at a time.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Jakub Jasiczak | Smiljka Vikic-Topic | Stine Skyum Kristensen | Andras Havasi

Track 2: Shared Virtual KTO: Experience from the First Pilots

Our panel discussion will explore how a group of universities or organisations can establish a shared, virtual KTO function to accelerate academic projects and ventures more effectively than traditional approaches. We will present innovative initiatives that employ a standardised approach and methodology to leverage shared resources and support a greater number of commercialisation projects. By sharing the KTO task in this way, a critical mass of otherwise underutilised projects can be developed, increasing efficiency and assisting institutions that lack the infrastructure for early-stage spin-out development.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Julian Jantke | Syahirah Abdul Rahman | Gavin Clark | Mark Mann
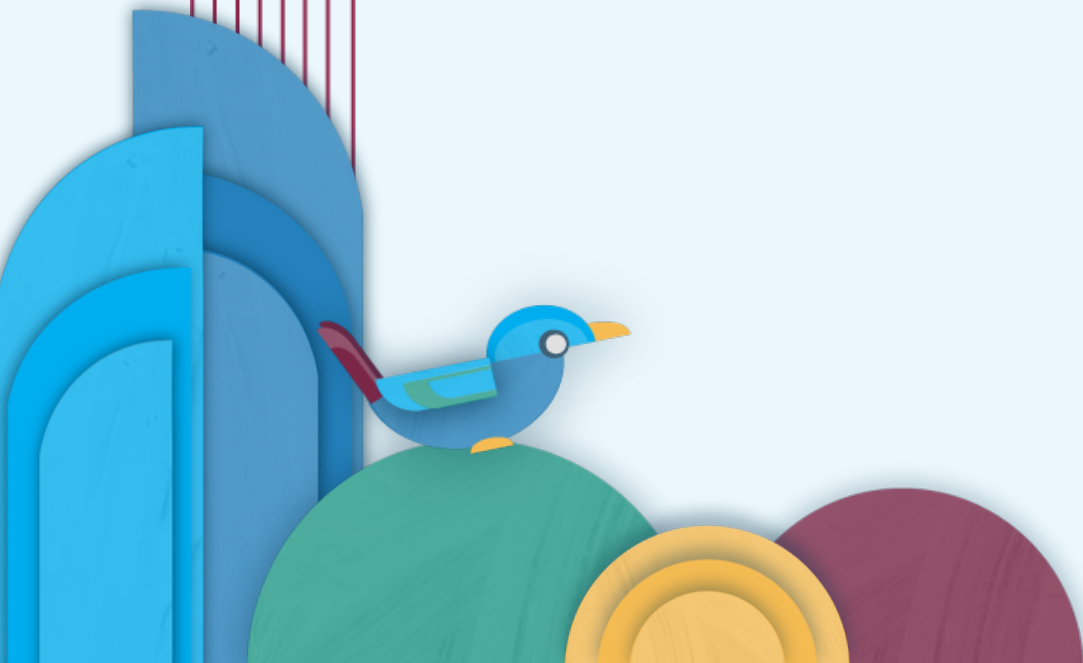
Track 3: How to develop entrepreneurs?

Join us for an insightful session on good practices for managing the transition between research and entrepreneurship, from pre-incubation to acceleration. This session will feature distinguished speakers running new venture-building programmes across Europe. We will share practical experiences on how to foster an entrepreneurial mindset and provide the right traction for the development of a start-up—from initial idea to investible company—and how to create a supportive ecosystem. You will gain valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities faced during the entrepreneurial journey and learn about the critical stages of entrepreneurial development, the role of mentorship, and the key resources needed.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Robert Schimpf | Trine Bartholdy | Philip Grother

DAY 3

Friday 23rd May

Women's Health - Solutions for the Other Half

Women's Health solutions cover areas tailored to women, addressing women-specific diseases or conditions where women are affected differently. For example, women are seven times more likely than men to be misdiagnosed with cardiovascular diseases. In recent years, there has been a growing recognition of the gender gap in healthcare, driven by the realisation that medical research and healthcare solutions have historically focused on men, the male body, and male biology. Clinical trials have primarily involved male subjects (both human and animal), resulting in medications and treatments that are less effective—or even harmful—for women. The focus on Women's Health aims to bridge this healthcare gap and reduce gender disparities in medical care.

Our speaker, Trine Bartholdy, has extensive life science experience from venture companies, the pharmaceutical industry, and maternal health and fertility organisations. This, coupled with Trine's current focus on innovation, translational research, and spin-outs, makes for a thought-provoking and illuminating Thursday morning wake-up call.

SPEAKER

Zita Duchovskienė

Track 1: Agreement Alchemy – Turning Collaboration into Success

Effective collaboration agreements are essential for successful research partnerships. This workshop will guide you through the process of drafting and negotiating agreements that protect both your institution and project outcomes.

The session will highlight key principles and strategies for creating strong collaboration agreements. Participants will then dive into a real-life case study, collaborating to draft agreements that address potential challenges and safeguard their interests.

After the group exercises, participants will present their findings and key discussion points. The workshop will conclude with a plenary discussion, offering an opportunity for additional insights and shared experiences.

The primary goals of this interactive session are to foster peer-to-peer learning and provide practical tools and frameworks for drafting effective research collaboration agreements.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Isabella Longoni | Olga Larionova

Track 2: Navigating AI Innovations

As artificial intelligence continues to revolutionise industries, it also profoundly impacts the IP and knowledge transfer landscape. Our expert speakers: a patent attorney and a lawyer, will provide you with current knowledge on patentability of AI innovations, the intricacies of attributing inventorship when AI systems drive innovation, the strategic choices on whether to disclose AI-related inventions or maintain confidentiality, as well as legal implications of AI Act on knowledge transfer.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

David Lestaeghe | Marcelo Estrella Orrego | Julio Rios

Track 3: Supercharging Tech Transfer Marketing with AI: From Insights to Impact

In this dynamic and interactive 90-minute session, participants will explore how artificial intelligence (AI) can revolutionize marketing strategies for technology transfer. Designed for technology transfer professionals eager to enhance their impact, this session combines insightful discussions, hands-on workshops, and real-world examples to showcase the transformative power of AI.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Nedeljko Milosavljevic | Dvorah Graeser

Track 1: Winning Research Impact | Exploring Organisational Models and Tools

As research funding increasingly prioritises impact on society, the economy, policy, and the environment, universities and research institutions must adapt to demonstrate the broader value of their work. Research Support Offices (RSOs) play a key role in shaping impact proposals, while Knowledge/Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) focus on commercialisation.

This session explores how collaboration between RSOs and TTOs, creative multidisciplinary approaches, and evolving support roles can strengthen research outcomes and maximise societal benefit. It will highlight best practices such as the "Promoting the Impact of Research" training course in Italy and Imperial College's Research Impact Management Office (RIMO), known for its integrated and tailored approach to impact management.

Participants will be encouraged to share experiences and explore new organisational models to improve research support and enhance impact across disciplines.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Valentina Romano | Marta Archanco | Alessandra Baccigotti

Track 2: Green venture: Building Synergies for Sustainable Success

As sustainability becomes a defining priority for global progress, green innovation stands at the forefront of change. This interactive session invites KT professionals to dive into the dynamic ecosystem of green ventures, where investors, startups, academic institutions, and local authorities interact to tackle climate challenges and drive economic growth. In this session we will understand what the drivers in sustainable innovation are, how startups position themselves to secure funding and scale impactful solutions, and the role of universities and innovation clusters in advancing policy-driven sustainability agendas to integrate green technology and accelerate green economies.

SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

Olivia Nicoletti | Imants Martinsons | Vida Lapinskaité | Christophe Haunold

Track 3: Wrapping Up the Conference: Your Voice Matters!

As the ASTP Annual Conference comes to a close, you will have navigated through a whirlwind of sessions, absorbed a wealth of information, and expanded your network with both familiar faces and new connections.

Did something you heard catch you by surprise or challenge your perspective? Are there topics you wish to explore further? Is there someone you met or heard about that you would like to connect with? An initiative that you would like to dive into a bit more? Or perhaps you have feedback on the overall conference experience—sessions you missed, or suggestions on the format?

Join us for an interactive "check-out" session with members of the ASTP Board, the Programming Committee, the ASTP Office, and experienced ASTP members. They will be on hand to address any questions or comments you may have, and to listen to your invaluable feedback.

Come and share your thoughts and ideas with us in a relaxed atmosphere. Your insights are crucial, and we look forward to hearing from you!

MODERATOR

Karen Laigaard

SAVE THE DATE!

ASTP Annual Conference 2026

Bucharest, Romania
20 - 22 May 2026

ASTP