

Mr John Gilchrist
Freedom of Information Officer

20 September 2017

Ref: FOI/August 2017/ Robyn Miles

By email to robyn.c.miles@gmail.com

The Burroughs
Hendon
London
NW4 4BT
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20 8411 4061
e-mail:
j.gilchrist@mdx.ac.uk
www.mdx.ac.uk

Dear Ms Miles

Your request for information received on 22 August 2017 has been dealt with under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

I am writing to you with the hope that you will be able to answer my following questions about Spin Out companies and your PhD students.

- 1) How many scientific start up companies and spin out companies have been created with Middlesex University each year for the last 10 years?
 - 2) How much revenue has the University made from these spin out companies each year for the last 10 years? How much profit has Middlesex University made from University owned Intellectual Property in general each year for the past 10 years?
 - 3) What is the usual % share of equity the University takes in a Spin Out company? Is this negotiable?
 - 4) What is the University's revenue sharing policy for Intellectual Property owned by the University that has been created by staff and students?
 - 5) How many PhD graduates have you had each year for the last 10 years in Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Computer Science, Engineering, and Physics?
 - 6) Do these graduates remain in London, move to another part of the UK, or leave the UK after graduation?
 - 7) Do these graduates find a career in their subject field or do they change career path? If they do change path what subject do they change to?
- And finally,
- 8) Would you be able to provide a full copy of your Intellectual Property Policy?

University Response

- 1) The University has created no scientific start-up companies in the last 10 years, but has created IP which was sold to one company allowing a creation outside of the University. The University has created 4 spin out companies in the last ten years in total.
- 2) The University did not collate this information before 2009/10 and the 2016/17 figures are still provisional awaiting final approval from our auditors:

09/10	£1.567m
10/11	£6.064m
11/12	£8.168m
12/13	£9.729m
13/14	£9.515m
14/15	£8.803m
15/16	£10.734m

We have zero income from University owned Intellectual Property over the last 10 years.

- 3) The University's IP Policy notes that 'each case shall be negotiated on its merits'. Because spin out is not a frequently used route, there is no settled equity share, unless the university is required to retain a strategic interest.
- 4) See the IP policies (attached) to this letter.
- 5) We do not have the information over the period of time you have asked for so we do not hold this information.
- 6) See above.
- 7) See above.
- 8) See the IP policies (attached) to this letter.

I trust this satisfies your request sufficiently. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you have the right to complain about the University's response to your request for information. If you have such a complaint, you may contact Mrs Teresa Kelly, Clerk to the Board of Governors, Middlesex University, Hendon campus, London NW4 4BT, tel: 020 8411 6018, t.kelly@mdx.ac.uk within 40 days of the date of this letter for a review of the University's decision. If you remain unsatisfied with the outcome of that complaint, you may seek further recourse by lodging an appeal with the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

John Gilchrist
Freedom of Information Officer