

## **Engineering Training In Support of Business Creation**

The presentation will review the basic requirements for a trained engineer. The changing needs of engineering in society are not being met and all aspects of education from secondary school level through University need to undergo fundamental changes.

Innovation and leadership are not well catered for within our present university systems. Universities still hold the key to the transfer of intellectual property and job creation but our present technology transfer successes do not match those of many other countries.

Leadership must be more embedded in our curriculum and the responsibility for this does not lie solely with the universities but also needs much greater industrial involvement. Factors influencing successful companies spin-outs are multi-faceted but the skill set to support these activities is presently not available. Here in Northern Ireland as in many other parts of the UK we need to change significantly our University educational programs to more successfully encourage an entrepreneurial spirit and provide the motivation to transfer knowledge to the business setting.

An example of a university spin-out will be presented as an exemplar. The presentation will demonstrate the skill sets required for this activity and indicate the changing needs of our education system to support and optimise this process.