

IN THE NEWS

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PARTEQ launches new tool for sharing research

Queen's faculty and staff now have a simple way to share their research findings and other resources with their colleagues and the public around the world.

Flintbox™, an online, web-based service for knowledge-sharing developed by the University of British Columbia, is now available to the university community through PARTEQ Innovations, the university's technology transfer office.

Flintbox enables creators of research information and products to "push" their research outcomes into the public domain easily and quickly, from across the research spectrum. Individu-

als can share their ongoing research activity and gain feedback for iterative improvements, or they can market end-use "products," from inventions, software and databases to teaching resources, surveys, protocols, methods, biological materials (via Material Transfer Agreement) and promotional materials. Resources can be freely shared, or offered for online license, purchase and download.

Exceptional Google ratings enable potential users to quickly find and connect with research postings, which they can purchase, download for free, or from which they can request further

information.

"We are pleased that we can now offer this kind of assistance to researchers, particularly in the humanities and social sciences," says John Molloy, President and CEO of PARTEQ. "There has been increasing interest in the non-patentable research results and products coming out of these disciplines. Now creators of these types of intellectual property at Queen's have a fast, simple way to share resources developed out of their expertise."

Over the next few months, PARTEQ staff will be working with departments and faculty across the university to explain the tech-

nology and help interested individuals get started with postings.

Initially launched at UBC in 2002 as a fast, simple means to market, distribute and license university-generated software not suitable for patent or exclusive license, Flintbox has proven its worth as a tool for efficiently and cost-effectively marketing high-volume, non-patentable as well as patentable research products and outcomes.

"The beauty of Flintbox is that it provides the capability to freely share, or to market and sell, research outcomes, with virtually no administrative burden or associated costs," Mr. Molloy says.

"Flintbox greatly enhances our ability to market early-stage technologies in our portfolio that were developed by Queen's researchers."

Queen's community members can sign on to Flintbox at www.flintbox.com/partners/parTEQ, or via the PARTEQ website's Research and Inventors page. They can also contact PARTEQ Office Manager Jane Gordon at 533-6000 ext. 77872.

Currently more than 23 universities, hospitals and research institutes across Canada are licensed to post projects on Flintbox. The service is also being piloted at eight U.S. universities. www.flintbox.com/partners/parTEQ