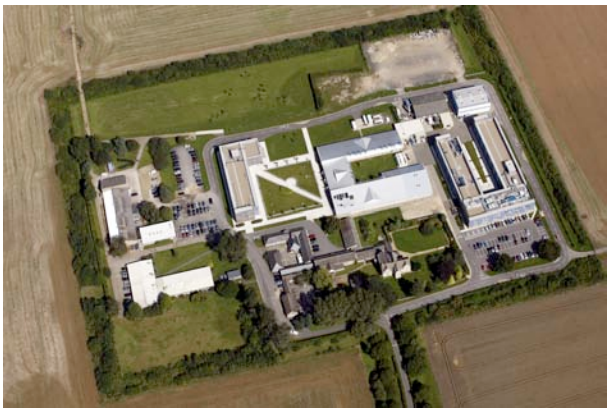
Oxford University Begbroke Science Park

'*Where Industry and Science Meet*'

Overview

Begbroke Science Park is a unique place where university researchers and small high technology companies work alongside each other in a highly innovative environment offering world-class facilities.



Oxford University Begbroke Science Park (aerial view)

The site was purchased in 1998 and grew rapidly after the appointment of Prof. Peter Dobson as its Academic Director in 2002.

Business activities & Knowledge Transfer

The Begbroke Directorate plays an important role in helping with Knowledge Transfer training in the University, and it has the benefit of being able to draw on the 'first hand' experience of setting up and running this unique site.

Two **Knowledge Transfer Network** (KTN) units are located on the site:

- Environmental KTN
- Materials KTN

There is also a **Knowledge Transfer Partnership** office, that is promoting increased University/business interactions. SRIF funding (the Science Research Investment Fund) was essential in providing space for these activities.

Activities on the site are also reaching into **schools**. These include an Innovation Showcase competition, a schools Nanotechnology day, involvement in the Oxford Science Festival and inclusion on the Youth International Science Fair. There is evidence that these are capturing the interest of children and encouraging them to study physics, chemistry and the life sciences.

The **Centre for Innovation and Enterprise** (managed by University staff) provides office and laboratory space for over 20 companies, many of which are University spin-offs. Current space is 100% occupied, with a waiting list of companies wishing to be located on the site.

Centre for Innovation and Enterprise

Research activities

There are over 20 research groups on site variously from the Departments of Materials, Engineering Science, and Earth Sciences, with Physics, the OeRC and Business Services and Projects all represented in Oxford Supercomputer machine room.

Highlighted areas include:

Begbroke Nano

A development of the Oxford University Materials Characterisation Service, set up following a DTI micro/nanotechnology initiative. It offers world-class facilities to both University and commercial users wishing to characterise materials to nanometric levels.

Environmental Research

2009.07

Investigating water quality and microbial interactions with matter (Department of Engineering Science).

Mobile Robotics

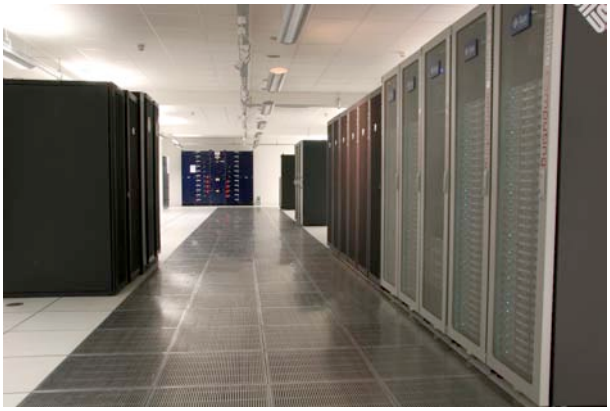
Engineering science have a robotics lab at Begbroke which is home to the Wildcat Autonomous Road Vehicle and several other robots using sensor processing technology.

Energy Research

Ranging from solar energy to catalysis, vehicle propulsion and new energy-use metering (Departments of Materials and Engineering Science).

Oxford University Supercomputer

High performance computing facilities, run by the Oxford e-Research Centre and available to all Oxford researchers. Also hosts Business Services and Projects.



Oxford Supercomputer

Advanced Processing Laboratory

Part of the Department of Materials that has **factory-scale processing equipment** – essential to translate materials research into real applications.

Electron Microscopy

The Begbroke suite comprises scanning and transmission electron microscopes, as well as an electron microprobe analyser and dual beam FIB-SEM providing analysis and training facilities.

Materials Testing

In which high-impact facilities are available for aerospace materials (Dept of Engineering Science).

Nano-materials synthesis

for application in many University departments, including the medical division.

Commercialisation Activities

- Begbroke provides a site for companies to start their independent activities close to a reservoir of talent and with access to valuable resources. Numerous networking and technology transfer events take place throughout the year to facilitate interaction.

Institute of Advanced Technology

*For further information on **Begbroke Science Park**, see*: www.begbroke.ox.ac.uk

*Information on the **Knowledge Transfer Networks** is available at*:

http://ipmnet.globalwatchonline.com/epicentric_portal/site/IPMNET/?mode=0 [Environmental]

http://amf.globalwatchonline.com/epicentric_portal/site/AMF/?mode=0 [Materials]

*For the **Oxford Supercomputer**, see*: www.oerc.ox.ac.uk/resources/osc