

UCY ILO

The Industry Liaison Office (ILO) of the University of Cyprus (UCY) has been operating since January 2013 under the project “Development and Operation of Industry/Enterprise Liaison Offices in Universities Operating in the Republic of Cyprus” funded by the Structural Funds.

The University of Cyprus as the coordinator of the Project leading a consortium of seven Universities (Cyprus University of Technology, Open University of Cyprus, European University, University of Nicosia, Neapolis University.)

The goal of the UCY ILO is to foster closer links between academia and industry for collaborative projects, promote the development of industrial research and infrastructure and the support and promotion of placements of students and researchers in industry and enterprises.

During the last year of its operation, the ILO of UCY has established strong relationship with its research community. By mapping their professional and research profiles the ILO Office matches their area of expertise to the needs of Business, brings them into contact offering assistance and support to all parties involved. The ILO office has also compiled detailed records on the Institution’s research infrastructure - labs and research centers of UCY- providing a description of the respective research activities, scientific operation as well as their equipment. All collected data can be found on the project’s portal <https://iloportal.ucy.ac.cy/>.

Aiming at bridging the gap between the academic and business world, the ILO has reached an important number of companies aiming at encouraging them to closely cooperate with academia. Furthermore, companies are constantly encouraged to provide the opportunity to students to be hosted as trainees. Additionally, an important number of student placements have resulted in offers of full time jobs to students. Furthermore, a significant number of partnership agreements were drafted between faculties and enterprises resulting from the concerted actions of the UCY ILO office.

The role of UCY ILO is instrumental in changing the mindset of students, researchers and business and highlighting that by close and productive collaboration, sharing of knowledge, transfer of skills and application of new practices the gap between academia and business can be bridged effectively for mutual benefit.