“There is no doubt that the UK is recognised as having one of the best approaches to knowledge exchange in the world. PraxisAuril has built on the increasing success of UK practitioners to elevate UK expertise around the world, and over the last 10 years has created and maintained a solid foundation for UK Knowledge Exchange. By taking its training to over 40 countries, including the China training programme which has trained 400 practitioners, PraxisAuril has demonstrated that the UK is a key player and influencer on the global knowledge exchange stage. With US organisations also coming to the UK to learn about university-business relationships, it’s clear that the PraxisAuril influence is felt far and wide.”
“2019 has already been a fantastic year for PraxisAuril. With now 173 member organisations and over 5000 people feeding into the PraxisAuril community, it has become the world’s biggest KE organisation outside of the US. With its growing pool of almost 400 volunteers, PraxisAuril continues to create and deliver world-leading training courses, and has trained around 600 people in the UK, in this year alone.

Diversity is a fundamental element to understanding the breadth of knowledge exchange activity that is happening across the world. Our members include professional organisations, system purveyors, catapults, government agencies, universities and businesses, and with their support we are achieving great things together. From volunteering to policy, to sponsorship and programme development, our members are at the heart of everything we do.

This annual report is a summary of all that we have achieved together in the past 12 months.”

Sean Fielding
Director of Innovation, Impact & Business, University of Exeter
Chair, PraxisAuril 2019-2021
SECTOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Based on 2017-18 HE-BCI data

- £4.5b: Total value of University industry collaboration
- £1.4b: Investment in UK university technology spinouts
- £1.4b: Of collaborative research
- £200m: Revenue from intellectual property
- 52%: All UK business R&D funded by overseas players
Successful Knowledge Exchange (KE) is essential to economic growth.

PraxisAuril supports KE in the UK and internationally, and works with key stakeholders and partners around the world to promote global best practice in the sector.

PraxisAuril develops KE and technology transfer professionals through:

- **DEVELOPING** professionals via our world-leading training
- **PROMOTING** best practice for our sector
- **CONNECTING** members and stakeholders at our events.
To equip PraxisAuril members with the skills, resources and connections to be the world’s most effective KE practitioners.

To ensure recognition for individual practitioners, for organisations and for the KE sector’s achievements.

To inform and influence an ecosystem which supports and enables excellent KE.
To **deliver** a comprehensive range of practically-focused professional development products, services and tools.

To **recognise** professional achievement by promoting and showcasing internationally benchmarked best practice and success in KE.

To provide **evidence** to the UK and international policy and funding stakeholders about the positive impact of KE activity.

To help more businesses to understand the benefits of working with universities - and that KE practitioners are best equipped to facilitate **effective collaboration**.
Our policy goal is to inform and influence at the highest level of KE policymaking to ensure that our members are recognised and respected.

The development of the Knowledge Exchange Framework (KEF) metrics and Concordat (KEC) dominates the policy environment in the wider context of the Industrial Strategy and 2.4% R&D target.

Brexit affects funding streams and people networks, impacting Knowledge Exchange as profoundly as the research base.

The KEF and KEC will continue their rollout. Keeping our eye firmly on that goal will provide a welcome element of consistency in uncertain political times.
5,000 KE PRACTITIONERS

39 Countries

Our membership includes:

- UK Universities
- Charities / NFP
- Research councils / institutes
- Government agencies
- NHS innovation hubs
- Non-UK Universities
- Catapults
We are closely connected with all ATTP alliance associations around the world.
“Volunteering has been at the heart of PraxisAuril since the beginning. The training programmes, the conferences, the mentoring and the committees all depend on volunteers. Thank you to all those who volunteered in 2019.”

David Secher RTTP, Patron
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ACTIVITIES

609 Trained UK delegates
11 Scheduled training programmes
52 New volunteers trained
2,230 Training days
64 Participants across our mentor programmes
171 Trained intl. delegates
20 China training programmes

“My thanks go to all the volunteers. None of this would be possible without the energy, dedication, time and expertise of the 124 volunteers who design and deliver our training courses and programmes.”

Sue Sundstrom RTTP, Chair
Professional Development Committee
The 2019 Annual Conference. The conference committee, chaired by Amanda Selveratnam, produced an excellent conference programme for the 400+ delegates.

Supported Regional Meetings in Scotland, East Midlands & North West.

Established Special Interest Groups for:
  Social Sciences, Humanities and the Arts
  New Investor Templates
  Specialist Legal Group.

Pilot KE Office Peer Review.
Consultation responses

Jan 2018 - KEF Technical Advisory Group consultation
May 2018 - ARMC consultation on revised IP guidance
July 2018 - PraxisAuril welcomes the Reid Review of Government Funded Research and Innovation in Wales and TERCW technical consultation
Oct 2018 - House of Commons Science & Technology Select Committee inquiry into the ‘Balance and effectiveness of research and innovation spending’

Policy events & networking

Feb 2019 – Keynote at InsideGov’s The Next Steps for the Knowledge Exchange Framework and Research Impact conference
July 2019 – panel member at Westminster HE Forum ‘Developing the Knowledge Exchange Framework - collaboration, metrics and the effect on the sector’

Policy initiatives

March 2018 - Member policy newsletter launched
Spring 2018 - Dedicated KEF webpage created
We work closely with partner organisations from around the world.

Working directly with AUTM, our sister organisation in the US, by informing the development of the AUTM Leadership Forum and attending the AUTM conference.

Partnering with ASTP, our sister organisation in Europe, on joint programme development and delivery, and EU policy work.

Collaborating with ARMA, the UK’s membership association for Research Managers and Administrators, on advocacy work and planning a joint Directors’ Forum in September 2019.

Helping to drive international accreditation body ATTP to ensure consistent global professional standards in KE.

Extending our licence arrangement with Jusirui, our Chinese partner for delivery of 12-day ATTP accredited training in mainland China.

MOU with Oxentia, Oxford’s Global Innovation Consultancy, to deliver international training.
PraxisAuril is a company limited by guarantee. We derive income from membership fees, training courses, conferences, other member events and sponsorship. We maintain a strong financial position, with a level of cash reserves which allows investment in strategic projects on behalf of the sector.

Our business model relies heavily on the commitment and goodwill of expert volunteer practitioners. The Board is committed to further strengthening organisational sustainability through improved profit margins and increased support for our expert volunteers, which will provide increased capacity to deliver more and better activities for our members.

PraxisAuril’s volunteer Board is comprised of a mix of directors appointed for a 4-year term and directors elected by PraxisAuril members for a 2-year term. We seek to ensure that the PraxisAuril Board represents the full spectrum of our membership and retains a diverse range of professional experience, skills and perspectives.
“PraxisAuril is already operating at the highest levels nationally and internationally to develop, promote and connect the KE profession. We are never complacent about this position and we continue to work hard to leverage our track record and global connectivity - harnessing the significant expertise of the KE sector in the UK, to offer more quality programmes, services, practical tools and information to PraxisAuril members and stakeholders.

We plan to extend our international initiatives to facilitate global connectivity for KE practitioners – and to source and share examples of best practice, wherever they originate. We will be working with our colleagues around the world to do this, but particularly with the US, mainland Europe and China over the coming year.”
"We are also aiming to provide more opportunities for solution-focused working groups and discussions between university and industry colleagues – and we will work in partnership with key stakeholders and businesses to deliver this step-change in activity in support of national policy.

We need increased engagement from a broader range of members to sustain our development plans on behalf of the sector – and will undertake a recruitment and mapping exercise to ensure that we have in place the diverse range of skills and perspectives we need to deliver our organisational aims."

Maxine Ficarra, CEO