



## SCOTTISH INNOVATIVE ACTIONS PROGRAMME 2004 – 2005

### Project Update - August 2005

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	<b>Media Lab</b>
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During the last quarter, Highlands & Islands Enterprise's (HIE) relationship with the Media Lab has been making good progress and is now in operation on a number of levels.

The main activities which have been undertaken over the past few months can be summarised as follows:

- There are a number of researchers working in a range of locations in the Highlands & Islands on Gaelic cultural storytelling technologies, internet radio and TV channel technologies and tourism interpretative trail technologies.
- HIE are currently exploring opportunities in the learning and healthcare sectors and plans are being worked upon with local stakeholders including the University of the Highlands & Islands (UHI) Millennium Institute, Careers Scotland and local small and medium sized businesses (SMEs).
- A number of Media Lab technology demonstrators are being considered for fixed term and permanent installations at business incubation centres, UHI locations and a major conference across the Highlands & Islands.
- Workshops have taken place in the Outer Hebrides, Orkney and Inverness with representatives of local businesses, UHI Millennium Institute and arts based organisations, in order to:
  - (i) consider the value and impact of the relationship with Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) locally amongst the business and academic community
  - (ii) stimulate local companies on the culture, creativity and technologies being developed at the Media Lab.
- A major opportunity has arisen through the Media Lab project to create a research group in the Highlands & Islands undertaking technology based research. The group may be associated with UHI locally and have links to MIT globally.



Calum Davidson, Head of Innovation at Highlands & Islands Enterprise on a visit to Media Lab in Boston