

# £1m uni research help for industry

By **MARTIN WILLIAMS**  
Business Correspondent

BUSINESSES lauded a new £1million research centre designed to give scientific support to product development.

The BioProducts and BioRefining Technology Transfer Centre research base on Llangefni Industrial Estate was opened by Ieuan Wyn-Jones AM.

Operated by Bangor University's BioComposites Centre, new equipment at the facility, purchased as part of the £20m BEACON project, will allow students and staff at Mona to work with industry to produce new composite materials for the construction and packaging sectors.

Spokesman Dr Adam Charlton said "This facility is really working, we already have successful collaborative projects on the go with local companies and more are coming on board every week."

Among them are Anglesey-based EcoBond Cymru and MDF Recovery Ltd.

MDF Recovery Ltd has developed a novel process to recover wood fibres from waste MDF.

The recovered fibres can be re-integrated back into the MDF manufacturing process.

Director Craig Bartlett said: "Without the expertise at Bangor we would not have been able to take our exciting new technology so far in such a short time. We are making exciting plans for the future and are proud to be based on Anglesey and we're delighted to be able to take



Left to right – Gwenda Davies, Gwynn Lloyd Jones, Dr Adam Charlton, Dr Dave Preskett, Dr Rob Elias, Robbie Mutton, Nick Lafin and Derek Heaghrote at the new Llangefni research centre opened by Ieuan Wyn-Jones AM

advantage of Mona's unique facilities."

EcoBond Cymru is a company focusing on the commercialisation of sustainable materials, technologies and methods used in the construction and energy sectors. It carries out a variety of functions from feasibility study and grant sourcing through to direct R&D and project management of third party led development projects.

Currently they are working with a number of clients including a developer of a sustainable roofing tile.

Spokesman Geraint Williams said: "The collaboration with Aberystwyth and Bangor Universities has been beneficial to our business in so many ways, their help and support has been key to our business strategy and the positioning of our business in this market."

Mr Wyn-Jones, Assembly member for Ynys Mon, also welcomed the state of the art centre, and added:

"I'm fully supportive of this project at Mona. Manufacturing will play a key role as the economy grows out of recession and the work done by BEACON and Bangor University will ensure a welcome boost for the economy here in Anglesey and throughout the north of Wales."