Track: Academic Entrepreneurship

Fundão, Portugal, 13-16 October 2020

Track Chairs
Arndt Werner and Meike Stephan, University of Siegen

Description of the track

Innovations are essential for economic growth in knowledge-driven societies and especially research outcomes of academics in institutions of higher education are an important source of commercially utilizable knowledge and innovations. Therefore, these institutions make great efforts to establish an infrastructure that facilitates commercial exploitations of academic inventions, e.g. by incentivizing academic entrepreneurship. However, academic knowledge of great commercial potential seems to remain – at least to certain degrees – unexploited in institutions of higher education. Many academics, for example, discontinue the entrepreneurial process in these institutions. Consequently, there seems to be a gap between academics showing entrepreneurial intentions to transfer academic knowledge and those actually founding a business pointing to specific barriers in the academic context. Thus, in order to enhance the effectiveness of incentives and support systems for commercial exploitation of research results and entrepreneurial activities of researchers, it is important to understand the specific factors that influence the decisions of academic staff to pursue entrepreneurship at each stage of the venture creating process. Moreover, because commercially utilizable inventions generated by academic scientists often remain unused, it is important to understand the underlying reasons why of this intention-action gap in the academic entrepreneurship context. Having said that, we are looking for studies that examine the antecedents and outcomes of academic entrepreneurship. We also welcome studies focusing on the reasons why commercially utilizable knowledge remains unexploited in the academic context in this track. Moreover, we encourage researchers to submit empirical studies using a variety of samples in academia (e.g. researchers, academic staff in universities, students).

Key topics and research questions of the track

- Academia-specific influences on the entire entrepreneurial process, as well as on distinct entrepreneurial phases
- Barriers of exploitation of academic knowledge and inventions
- Gender and diversity effects on the innovation and entrepreneurial activity within the academic context
- Impact of educational and vocational history on entrepreneurial and innovation activities
- Barriers, drivers and outcomes of entrepreneurship and knowledge transfer within the academic context
- Influences of different level variables on academic entrepreneurship: individual, interpersonal, institutional and societal level
- SMEs and entrepreneurial ventures cooperating with academic institutions to foster knowledge transfer activities

We encourage contributions to address one or more of the listed or related topics, using qualitative or quantitative analyses, developing theoretical frameworks that extend and develop our understanding of academic entrepreneurship and will deliver practical and policy implications. Note, the track is also open to research addressing other - but related - topics. We also welcome contributions from different scientific backgrounds: economics, psychology, sociology etc.

**The deadline for submissions is June 1st, 2020.**
All submissions must use the submission template and use the submission procedure on the webpage otherwise they will not be considered for review.

**Download the submission template here**
Submit your paper [here](#)

**The registration for the conference is open until July 31st, 2020.**
Register [here](#)