Call for Papers for the 15th Uddevalla Symposium 2012 on:
Entrepreneurship and Innovation Networks
June 14-16, 2012
hosted by
CIEO, University of Algarve, Faro, Portugal

Venue: Campus de Gambelas, Faculty of Economics

Title and Abstract Submission Deadline: January 25th, 2012

Keynote speakers

Prof. Rui Baptista
Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal

Prof. Michael S. Dahl
Aalborg University, Denmark

Prof. Edward Feser
University of Manchester, UK

Professor Michael Fritsch
Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, Jena, Germany

Prof. Maureen Kilkenny
National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy, Washington D.C., USA

Prof. Peter Nijkamp
VU, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Dr. Bettina Peters
Center for European Economic Research, Germany

Prof. Mirjam van Praag
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Prof. Andreas Pyka
Universität Hohenheim, Germany

Prof. James Simmie
Oxford Brookes University, UK

Prof. Roger R. Stough
George Mason University, USA

Objectives
Following the tradition established by the previous symposia, starting in 1998, the symposium is designed to bring together leading-edge views of senior academic scholars and mix them with the critical and creative views of post-docs and PhD students engaged in their thesis work.

We welcome researchers from various fields, such as economic geography, economic history, entrepreneurship, international business, management, political science, regional economics, small business economics, sociology and urban and regional planning.

The objectives of the fifteenth Uddevalla Symposium 2012 are: i) to provide a unique opportunity for scholars including senior and junior researchers to discuss path-breaking concepts, ideas, frameworks and theories in plenary key-note sessions and parallel competitive paper sessions, and ii) to facilitate the development and synthesis of important contributions into cohesive and integrated collections for potential publication. Therefore, unpublished complete papers are invited for presentation and feedback from other scholars. A selected list of these papers will be subjected to review and development for publication in scholarly venue.

Publications
Leading-edge contributions from the previous symposia have appeared in special issues of prestigious journals and eleven edited book volumes. For a selected list of publications of previous symposia, please see http://www.symposium.hv.se/extra/pod/?id=1040&module_instance=1&action=pod_show

This symposium will follow the same practice. In addition to an Uddevalla Symposium Hardback Proceeding, a selection of papers presented at the symposium will be published in a special issue of Small Business Economics and in one or two edited books published by an international publisher.
The notion of entrepreneurship is loaded with complex meanings, ranging from finding a source of income when no jobs are available to the drive of individuals to create novelties, while the strive for temporary entrepreneurial rent remains the centre of entrepreneurial gravitation. However, many researchers emphasize institutional arrangements (formal and informal) as an explanation of why the frequency as well as quality of entrepreneurship varies between different, places, regions, and countries.

In view of this, one of the main questions that we hope will be analyzed at this symposium is: Which features make such structural differences remain invariant between decades, and how can such knowledge be employed in policy? Such analyses can now be carried out with the help of considerably long time series with clear opportunities to investigate dynamic interdependencies. Andersson and Koster (2010) find that spatially sticky and durable determinants of start-ups, which implies, that there are sources of persistence to be examined in detail to increase the understanding of how certain regions can maintain a start-up rate which is close to double that of the average.

The start of new firms and the introduction of new products (goods and services) to the market is a process which on the micro level reveals a high frequency of entry and exit. This context concerns how entrepreneurs discover new business opportunities, and how they develop and exploit networks for mobilizing joint innovation efforts. What is the pre-history of new entrepreneurs, and which networks do they carry with them when they leave an employment to start a company (cf., Almeida and Kogut 1999)? During the life-time of their entrepreneurial venture they will continuously develop and exploit their networks. In which networks do entrepreneurs, for example, find employees when the firm grows? Relevant networks comprise links to knowledge, technology, capital sources and customer opportunities. Again, new databases will help to illuminate these questions and provide guidelines to innovation network and entrepreneurship policies.

A recent example of research in this vein is Andersson, Baltzopoulos and Lööf (2010). Examining entrepreneurial ventures of ex-employees of firms with different R&D-strategies three findings not well documented in the previous literature are presented. First, firms with persistent R&D-investments with a general superiority in sales, exports, productivity, profitability and wages are less likely to generate entrepreneurs than firm with temporary or no R&D-investments. Second, start-ups from knowledge intensive business service (KIBS) firms with persistent R&D-investments have a significantly increased probability of survival. No corresponding association between the R&D-strategies of incumbents and survival of entrepreneurial spawns is found for incumbents in manufacturing sectors. Third, spin-outs from KIBS-firms are more likely to survive if they start in the same firm, indicating the importance of inherited related knowledge. The findings suggest that R&D-intensive firms spur fewer entrepreneurs, but their entrepreneurial spins tend to be of higher quality. The results corroborate and extend previous findings in the literature (Kepper 2001, Klepper and Sleeper 2005).

The research questions launched in the call for papers associate to many pertinent policy issues. The most apparent concerns conditions conducive for entrepreneurship in the form of new firms and firm growth. It also related to knowledge-intensive services and their policy relevance. The frequency of product introduction and formation of new firms increase in knowledge-intensive service industries and especially knowledge-intensive industries and the bulk of new firms is indeed knowledge-intensive service firms. Moreover, entrepreneurial knowledge is spatially sticky, embodied in individuals and networks connecting relevant people and thereby tacit in nature. This suggests that spatial relocation and establishment of new interaction links are important in the development of sectorial networks. But, what is the role of public policies in this connection?

We welcome the submission of papers to the overall theme;

**I. Entrepreneurship and Innovation Networks** or to one of the following special sub-themes/mini-tracks:

**II. Learning in Organizational Networks**

Chair: Assoc. Prof. Lars Svensson, Research Director, University West, Trollhättan, Sweden

**III. Learning Networks for Entrepreneurial and Regional Development**

Chair: Prof. Stefan Lagrosen, University West, Trollhättan, Sweden

**IV. Demythologising the Entrepreneurial University**

Chairs: Prof. David Charles, European Policies Research Centre, University of Strathclyde, UK & Prof. Martin Meyer, University of Sussex, UK

**V. Regional Innovation Systems and Innovation Networks**¹

Chairs: Prof. Christina Ponsiglione, Prof. Luca Iandoli & Prof. Giuseppe Zollo, University of Naples Federico II, Italy

**VI: Mobility and Innovation Flows**

Chair: Prof. Teresa de Noronha, Research Centre for spatial and Organizational Dynamics (CIEO), University of Algarve, Portugal

**VII: Academics Entrepreneurship and Innovation – bridging perspectives and pushing the frontier**

Chairs: Prof. Martin Andersson & Prof. Åsa Lindholm-Dahstrand, Centre for Innovation, Research and Competence in the Learning Economy (CIRCLE), Lund University, Sweden

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¹ Information regarding sub-topics are to be found on the website [www.symposium.hv.se](http://www.symposium.hv.se)
Submission information

Abstract Submission Deadline: January 25th, 2012

Title of the paper, keywords, Overall theme or subtheme (choose one from the list above numbered from I to VI Name(s) and academic title of the author(s), Affiliation(s), complete mail address(es), E-mail address(es) and corresponding author(s)

Submit the abstract using the Word 97-2003 version of Microsoft. We suggest naming your file “PRESENTERS NAME_Uddevalla2012.doc” to avoid confusion between abstracts.

Results of the review process will be communicated to authors by approximately February 20th, 2012


The organisation of the symposium

The 15th Uddevalla Symposium 2012 will have the following structure.

Keynote sessions: Mornings up to lunch are set aside for 3-4 plenary keynote contributions of prominent scholars.

Parallel sessions: Afternoons are devoted to parallel sessions focusing on the development of emergent concepts, frameworks, and theories for better understanding of the themes of the symposium and the new challenges they pose for scholars and practitioners.

Best paper awards

To stimulate high quality papers a Best Paper Award of € 1.000 as well as a Best PhD Candidate Paper Award of € 700 will be awarded. The members of the scientific committee will select the winning papers. Only papers submitted before the deadline will be evaluated.

Scientific committee

Assoc. Prof. Per Assmo, University West, Sweden, per.assmo@hv.se
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Centre of Excellence for Science and Innovations Studies (CESIS), Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm & Jönköping International Business School, Sweden
Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), Portugal http://www.fct.pt/index.phtml.pt
Project PTDC/CS-GEO/102961/2008
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Municipality of Uddevalla, Uddevalla, Sweden
Nordic Section of Regional Science Association (NS-RSA).
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For further information, please visit the symposium website www.symposium.hv.se or feel free to contact the Uddevalla Symposium co-ordinator: Ms Iréne Bernhard, University West, Trollhättan, Sweden, irene.bernhard@hv.se