

Call for Papers

We invite proposals for presentations at a workshop on

“Evolution and Co-Evolution of Regional Innovation Processes”

to be held on June 29, 2017
in Heilbronn, Germany

Organized by:

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Muhamed Kudic (University of Bremen)
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Topic

Over the past decades, a rich and highly interdisciplinary body of literature has emerged that significantly improved our knowledge on innovation processes in regions. One major insight is that innovation most often results from pronounced interactions between different types of actors (inventors, small and large firms of different sectors, public research organizations, etc.) who are embedded in regional innovation systems (RIS). These systems are highly complex entities whose development is driven by interactions among their elements. Particularly the interplay between the different actors of RIS, structural change, processes of entry and exit of actors, and their consequences for innovation processes are still not understood very well.

We aim at attracting cutting-edge contributions that address the interplay between evolutionary, co-evolutionary and regional innovation processes in its different facets. In its most general sense the concept of co-evolution refers to the idea that two or more dimensions (e.g. industries, networks, technologies etc.) change simultaneously and affect each other while they evolve. The implications of such co-evolutionary processes for innovation policy are rather unclear and we still face more questions than answers, such as: what can policy do in order to actively stimulate the development of RIS? What are relevant policy options? What are the consequences for innovation processes and strategies of individual firms?

We particularly invite presentations that help to answer one or several of the following research questions – this list is non-exclusive:

- What are the main co-evolutionary interdependencies in regional development?

- What are the mechanisms that fuel evolutionary and co-evolutionary processes?
- What role do innovation networks play for the dynamics of RIS?
- What characteristics of innovation networks are conducive to co-evolutionary processes?
- How can cross-fertilizations between basic and applied research be organized in RIS?
- What are the long-term dynamics to be expected from intra- and intersectoral knowledge creation on industrial structures?
- What policy options are relevant in complex RIS?
- How can innovation economics support regional policy making in a world shaped by complex co-evolutionary dynamics?

Submissions

With the planned workshop we aim at providing an inspiring environment for presentation and discussion of most recent finding on the issues raised above. The workshop will be funded by the *Dieter Schwarz Stiftung* and kindly supported by the *Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Heilbronn-Franken* and the *Stifterverband*, Germany's largest and most renowned industry initiative promoting innovation, education and science. There is no conference fee. We are able to reimburse travel expenses (economy class) for invited contributions. The organizers aim at publishing main contributions to the Workshop in a special issue of a high-impact academic journal.

Please send your proposal (max. 500 words) until **February 28th 2017** to the organizers. Notification about acceptance of contributions will be at **March 31st 2017** the latest. Please submit your proposal to: inno@uni-hohenheim.de

Scientific Committee

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