Unlocking the Potential of Regions Through Entrepreneurship and Innovation

June 27-29, 2019
Venue: Gran Sasso Science Institute - GSSI, L’Aquila, Italy

Abstract Submission Deadline: January 28th, 2019

Keynote Speakers

Prof. Martin Andersson
Blekinge Institute of Technology, Sweden

Prof. Maria Minniti
Syracuse University, USA

Prof. Dr. Rolf Sorenberg
Leibniz University Hannover, Germany

Prof. Ron Boschma
Utrecht University, The Netherlands

Prof. Raquel Ortega-Argilés
University of Birmingham, UK

Assoc. Prof. Ting Zhang
University of Baltimore, USA

Assoc. Prof. Simone Ghezzi
University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy

Prof. Simon C. Parker
Western University, Canada

Prof. Elin Wihlborg
Linköping University, Sweden

Prof. Olav Sorensen
Yale University, USA

The theme of the 22nd Uddevalla Symposium

It is well-known that development is uneven across regions. While some cast regional inequality as a natural and even a desirable outcome of the development path of nations, the current academic and political consensus calls for policy interventions targeted towards a more balanced, inclusive and regionally-cohesive growth. Yet, despite decades of sizeable policy efforts, there is no clear evidence of economic and social convergence across regions within countries. Rather the picture is patchy with some evidence of convergence in some circumstances within the EU, USA and parts of Latin America, while in other cases macroeconomic factors have militated against convergence, even in these same macro-regions. In times of costly fiscal adjustment and slow economic recovery, such regional disparities bring social and political discontent, particularly in declining, lagging and peripheral regions, and these issues are now coming very much to the forefront of the development policy agenda worldwide. Entrepreneurship and innovation are proven to be strong drivers of regional economic development, and therefore they offer a source of potential solutions to the challenges imposed by an adverse international context. Yet, both entrepreneurial and innovative activity are themselves highly unevenly-distributed in space, which might in itself be a main cause of the persistent regional inequalities in both developed and developing countries. A deeper understanding of the drivers and the implications of sub-national disparities in entrepreneurship and innovation is therefore a priority for implementing policies aimed at unlocking the potential of all regions, and especially of those rural, lagging and peripheral, in order to maximize their contribution to national growth and prosperity. The theme of the 22nd Uddevalla Symposium aims at showcasing new insights into the geography of entrepreneurship and innovation. Although non-exhaustive, some of the most pressing questions that could be addressed are:

- New approaches to the measurement of regional entrepreneurial and innovative activity
- The spatial distribution, drivers and dynamics of different types of entrepreneurship (e.g. high /low-potential; necessity/opportunity-driven)
- The role of agglomeration externalities in small and new firms’ performance
- Urban-rural linkages as drivers of entrepreneurial and innovative activity in peripheral regions
- The role of regional institutions and governance in boosting/hampering entrepreneurial and innovative activity
- Regional entrepreneurship and innovation dynamics along the expansion/contraction phases of the economic cycle
- Entrepreneurship as a risk-coping and regional resilience mechanism: theoretical and practical approaches.
- Synergies and complementarities between entrepreneurship and innovation support initiatives within regional development policies.
We welcome the submission of papers to:

I. **Unlocking the Potential of Regions Through Entrepreneurship and Innovation**

*Or* to one of the following special sessions:

II. **Uncovering the Role of Culture for Local Entrepreneurship**

The importance of culture for entrepreneurship has been an active area of research in social sciences during the last three decades. The bulk of evidence point at cultural differences as a main driver of differences in entrepreneurial activity (Tan, 2002; Shane, 1994) and innovation outcomes (Shane, 1993; Shane et al., 1995) across national economies. But influential research has also highlighted the important role of local cultural differences for entrepreneurship and innovation dynamics at the regional level (Saxenian, 1994; Peredo, McLean, 2006; Pleistetter 2013). That is why, culture has come to the forefront as one of the key framework conditions of the entrepreneurial (Isenberg, 2011) and innovation (Mitra 2012) ecosystems. There is, however, a large scope for exploration of the still not fully-understood linkages between culture and entrepreneurship, particularly at the local and regional levels.

More information at [www.symposium.hv.se](http://www.symposium.hv.se)

**Chair:** Dr. Giulia Pezzi, Gran Sasso Science Institute, GSSI L’Aquila: giulia.pezzi@gssi.it

III. **Cultural and Creative Industries and Regional Innovation**

Cultural and creative industries (CCIs) comprise a broad range of activities, including cultural heritage, architecture, music, live performance, publishing, music, arts and crafts professions, television, radio, film and video, advertising, design, fashion, video games, software and, in some cases, IT services. CCIs play a distinctive role in redefining the relationships between place, economy, culture and creativity, especially considering the global and digital character of today’s economy. In many countries, CCIs constitute a dynamic and resilient sector which, in the last years, has grown faster than the rest of the economy, making them attractive to policy makers as drivers of sustainable economic growth and employment creation. However, due to the rapid evolution of CCIs, the difficulties to define their needs, and the fragmentation of the policy frameworks, national and local policy makers tend to systematically underestimate their contribution to the economy and consequently deploy insufficient means to support them. More information at [www.symposium.hv.se](http://www.symposium.hv.se)

**Chair:** Dr. Alessandro Crociata, Gran Sasso Science Institute, GSSI L’Aquila, alessandro.crociata@gssi.it

IV. **Kinds of Regional Resources that Contribute Innovation and Creation of New Industries**

Innovation is not created everywhere in the world. We can observe the Spatial Concentration of Innovation. It means that the Regional Resources of a specific place are so important for promoting innovation. We would like to invite scholars as well as faculty members in many regions to share the spatial concentration of innovation. We can learn many different regions and also histories. Research inquiries we commonly have are: 1) What are the Regional Resources, including Technology, Human Resources, Capital, Social Institutions and Social Capital to promote Innovation? 2) We inquire the reason why such Regional Resources are available in the Region. 3) Why are some of these Regional Resources not transferable to other regions?

**Chairs:** Tomomichi Yoshikawa, Professor emeritus, GSB, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan, t.yoshikawa@waseda.jp & Hironari Ukai, Professor of Graduate School of Economics/Faculty of Economics, Nagoya City University, Nagoya, Japan, hironari.ukai@gmail.com

V. **Innovation and Societal Development from the Perspective of Work Integrated Learning**

This session focuses on innovative research and development where different stakeholders meet and collaboratively address challenges in a contemporary society.
facilitate the development and synthesis of important contributions into cohesive and integrated collections for potential concepts, ideas, frameworks and theories in plenary key-note sessions and parallel competitive paper sessions, and ii) to http://www.symposium.hv.se/en/publications

Leading-edge contributions from previous symposia have appeared in so far eight special issues of prestigious journals with an additional one in the pipeline, and nineteen edited book volumes. Following the traditions, we are considering publishing either a special issue and/or a book volume consisting of a selection of papers presented at this symposium except for a Proceedings with revised papers. For a selected list of publications of previous symposia, please see http://www.symposium.hv.se/en/publications.
Submission information

Abstract Submission Deadline: **January 28th 2019**

Abstract – maximum 500 words including:
- **Title of the abstract/paper**, selected theme (choose from the list above numbered from I to XII.), **keywords**, Name(s) and academic title of the author(s), Affiliation(s), complete mail address(es), E-mail address(es) and corresponding author send by e-mail to: 2019uddsymp@hv.se

Submit the abstract using the Word 2010 version of Microsoft. We suggest naming your file “PRESENTERS NAME_Uddevalla2019.docx” to avoid confusion between abstracts.

Results of the review process will be communicated to authors by approximately **February 28th, 2019**

Submission Deadline for Complete Papers accepted for presentation (in Word 2013 or earlier version): **May 25th, 2019**

The organisation of the symposium

The 22nd Uddevalla Symposium 2019 will have the following structure. **Keynote sessions:** Mornings up to lunch are set aside for 3-4 plenary keynote contributions of prominent scholars. **Parallel paper 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

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The symposium website www.symposium.hv.se
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