

# Moving Knowledge into Action

## A debate on Academic Entrepreneurship

University of Padova; 8-9 June 2017

The workshop aims to identify the role of universities within an entrepreneurial ecosystem. The “third mission” of universities is not always easy to be developed, and country specificities impede the identification of some universal “best practices”. This is why more research is needed to explore the complex dynamics at the basis of the university-industry (U-I) interactions, within a triple helix perspective. Amongst the various channels available for establishing U-I relationships there is the commercialization of academic knowledge (through patents, licensing of inventions, and academic entrepreneurship). In order to support entrepreneurship, many universities have built appropriate structures, such as technology transfer offices (TTOs), science parks and incubators, and created internal supportive rules and procedures. Beside commercialization, there are also other ways in which universities transfer their knowledge. Formal and informal channels blend together in shaping an innovation ecosystem, which allows U-I interactions by means of collaborative research, contract research and consulting (formal technology transfer), but also by means of ad hoc advice, networking with practitioners, internships and so forth (informal technology transfer or “academic engagement”). Academic engagement represents an important way in which academic knowledge is transferred into the industrial domain, yet research on U-I relationships has been often bounded on the exploration of formal channels.

This workshop aims to debate on the following questions: which is the role of universities in fostering links with knowledge users and facilitating technology transfer? Which is the role of formal and informal knowledge transfer? Which is the geographical dimension of the U-I ties? Which is the role of direct and indirect ties? And, if indirect ties are crucial, which are the intermediaries that are more suited to move knowledge into action? Which are the proper policies which can support academic entrepreneurial dynamism?

The workshop runs as part of the research project PRAT 2014: “Moving knowledge into action: exploring the micro-foundation of an innovation ecosystem”, funded by the University of Padova and headed by prof. Silvia Rita Sedita.

### Dates and location

#### Thursday, 8th June

timing: 14.00-18.00, University of Padova,  
Palazzo Bo - Aula Nievo

#### Friday, 9th June

timing: 9.00-18.00, University of Padova,  
Palazzo Bo - Sala Archivio Antico

### CALL FOR PAPERS

We welcome contributors willing to discuss on academic entrepreneurship and the university-industry relationships at large, exploring the role of universities in stimulating economic growth in terms of innovation and entrepreneurship. Possible themes are listed below:

- > The entrepreneurial university (spin-off, patents, licensing)
- > University-industry collaborations (formal and informal)
- > The role of universities in open innovation strategies
- > The role of universities in entrepreneurial ecosystems
- > Student entrepreneurship
- > University spin-off vs. corporate spin-off
- > The scientific/entrepreneurial performance of university professors

### Important dates

Submission deadline: 30 April 2017

Authors notification: 8 May 2017.

Registration due: 21 May 2017.

### Abstract submission instructions

Abstract must be sent in pdf format to [roberta.apa@unipd.it](mailto:roberta.apa@unipd.it).  
Please use “workshop submission” as mail subject.

### Registration

The workshop is open to presenters and attendants. Participation is free of charge, while travel and accommodation costs remain at the charge of participants. Registration is compulsory, limited seats available. Please register at: <http://knowledge-into-action.eventbrite.it>

### Organizers

Silvia Rita Sedita (University of Padova)  
Roberta Apa (University of Padova)

For further information regarding the workshop, please contact Roberta Apa at [roberta.apa@unipd.it](mailto:roberta.apa@unipd.it)