Preface

Academic entrepreneurship (AE) is a new emerging field in the scientific world. It refers to the creation and management of an environment for active support of knowledge exploitation and transfer. Academic entrepreneurship stimulates entrepreneurial behavior among the fellows of and institutional structures in the academic community. It covers activities in which university might be involved, including: licensing, patenting, creating new companies, facilitating technology transfer through technology transfers centers, science parks and incubators, et cetera.

There is a global interest in translating the technology arising from university research into economic growth through academic entrepreneurship. This book aims to go some way to filling the gap in the understanding the process of innovation networks (between universities, new firms, and organizations that support entrepreneurial activities) that are embedded in academic entrepreneurship and facilitate industry’s growing demand for technological innovation.

OBJECTIVE OF THE BOOK

There is global interest in translating the technology arising from university research into economic growth through academic entrepreneurship. The following book will present most recent, detailed analysis and synthesis of the stream of research on university entrepreneurship. There will be provided a comprehensive overview of the linkages in networks between universities, intermediate organizations and university spin-offs.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The target audience of this book includes faculty, students, researchers, entrepreneurs, managers, venture capitalists, investors, industry partners, and government officials’ representatives of technology transfer offices, incubators, science parks, and research parks.

In the first section of the book academic entrepreneurship is defined as the leadership process of creating economic value through acts of organizational creation, renewal, or innovation that occurs within or outside the academic institution that consequences research and technology commercialization. The policy-driven approach is examined by how it has been effective in enhancing academic entrepreneurship in higher education institutions and the innovation system.
In the second section, the university is described as the representative of innovation, technological development, economic growth, and social improvement, especially in the context of growing knowledge-based economies. Therefore, this section examines the university’s role in transforming inventions into innovations thus facilitating, nurturing and supporting academic entrepreneurial activities.

With the increasing entrepreneurial activities at universities, intermediary organizations have been in the spotlight of research, because they are often regarded as the formal gateway between the university and industry. Therefore, the third section discusses intermediary organizations role in knowledge and technology transfer through, research collaborations, and informal points of accessibility to various resources, including human, financial, and technical resources.

In sum, the book “Academic Entrepreneurship and Technological Innovation: A Business Management Perspective” presents a detailed analysis and synthesis of the stream of research on university entrepreneurship and provides understanding of this complex and multi-faceted process. It is useful in guiding future research. It provides comprehensive knowledge relating to academic entrepreneurship. It is the first book that gives systematic information about networks between universities, intermediate organizations, and university spin-offs.

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