**Track: Academic Entrepreneurship**

**Track Chairs:**
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**Description of the track**
The crucial role of academic entrepreneurship in accelerating technological innovation and promoting local and national economic development has been globally recognized. Therefore, universities around the world are currently implementing far-reaching changes to become more entrepreneurial. This development has led universities to accept more contract-based research, patenting, licensing and spin-off activities to promote the commercialization of their academic research. Moreover, this has also attracted the attention of (i) university researchers and sparked their willingness to commercialize their inventions and (ii) policy-makers wishing to foster social and economic development via exploitation of university innovation. Surprisingly, however, a high discrepancy still exists between entrepreneurial intention and entrepreneurial action. According to Fritsch and Krabel (2012), for example, 28% of all university scientists have entrepreneurial intentions, but only 3.2% act on their plan and start a new business. Consequently, there seems to be a gap between academics showing entrepreneurial intentions to transfer academic knowledge and those actually founding a business. In order to enhance the effectiveness of incentives and support systems for commercial exploitation of research results and entrepreneurial activities of researchers, it is important to understand the specific factors that influence the venture gestation patterns of potential academic entrepreneurs as well as the early stage development of the young enterprises and their response to crises (including, but not restricted to the Corona pandemic). Having said that, we are looking for studies that examine the antecedents and outcomes of academic entrepreneurship. We also welcome studies focusing on the reasons why commercially utilizable knowledge remains unexploited in the academic context in this track. Moreover, we encourage researchers to submit empirical studies using a variety of samples in academia (e.g. researchers, academic staff in universities, students).

**Key topics and research questions of the track**

- Drivers, barriers and success-factors of academic entrepreneurship
- Venture gestation patterns of academic entrepreneurship
- Context-specific influences on the entire entrepreneurial process
- The effect of “publish or perish” on academic entrepreneurship behavior
- Barriers of exploitation of academic knowledge and inventions
- Gender and diversity effects on the innovation and entrepreneurial behavior
- Influences of different level variables on academic entrepreneurship: individual, interpersonal, institutional and societal level
- SMEs and entrepreneurial ventures cooperating with academic institutions to foster knowledge transfer activities
- Market persistence and early stage development of young academic enterprises including their drivers and barriers
- The role of innovation in crises management (including, but not restricted to the Corona pandemic)

We encourage contributions to address one or more of the listed or related topics, using qualitative or quantitative analyses, developing theoretical frameworks that extend and develop our understanding of academic entrepreneurship and will deliver practical and policy implications. Note, the track is also open to research addressing other - but related - topics. We also welcome contributions from different scientific backgrounds: economics, psychology, sociology etc.

The deadline for submissions is 15 June, 2021. All submissions must use the submission template and use the submission procedure on the webpage otherwise they will not be considered for review. Submit your paper here.

The registration for the IECER – Virtual Community Conversation Vol. II will be open from 01 July, 2021. Register here.