



Political Science
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Geography and Program in Planning
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Global Innovation & Regional Development Speaker Series

Presents

Edward J. Malecki

(Ohio State University)

“The Local, Global, and Virtual Geographies of Innovation”

Thursday, October 30, 2014

12:00-2:00 p.m.

Sidney Smith Hall 3130



Abstract: Innovation is a global enterprise, but one centered in specific places. This presentation is a progress report of an ongoing project which will address what innovation is, how it occurs, and how it is manifested in recent innovations, big (the Internet) and small (mobile telecommunications). At the global scale, it takes a big-picture look at the state of global knowledge and creativity as they have developed rapidly during the past decades, and how these have been manifested as economic competitiveness.

Innovation is variegated and takes many forms. It still emerges from corporate research and development (R&D), but less frequently, as “crowdsourcing” and “open innovation” provide new mechanisms for gathering ideas and user feedback. The most successful firms have created new, unanticipated combinations. For example, the Internet acts as a platform for innovation in technologies and business models, sparking convergence, competition, and new industrial boundaries. Finally, innovation matters to local, regional, and national economies as policies (public and private) try to boost and maintain innovation in places and regions.

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For more information please contact Harald Bathelt (harald.bathelt@utoronto.ca)

or Pierre Desrochers (pierre.desrochers@utoronto.ca)