



Political Science
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Geography and Program in Planning
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Global Innovation & Regional Development

Speaker Series

Presents

OLIVER IBERT

(Leibniz-Institute for Regional Development & Structural Planning Erkner)

Mushrooming Entrepreneurship: The Dynamic Geography of Innovation Originating from Communities of Interest

Wednesday July 16th , 2014

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Sidney Smith Hall 3130



Abstract

Communities of interest encompassing manifold sophisticated users, highly skilled enthusiasts and dedicated hobbyists are increasingly being taken seriously by economic geographers as sources of innovation. The lecture applies a time-spatial approach to empirically access the process through which entrepreneurial activities arise and proliferate within such communities. In a qualitative ex-post analysis of two case studies of evolving communities of interest – geocaching and fingerboarding – the lecture will trace how the social composition of these communities changed over time and how entrepreneurial ambition co-evolved with these changes. Particular emphasis will be put on the tensions between the communities' norms of sharing knowledge freely among peers and the entrepreneurial logic of monopolizing knowledge.

Sponsored by the Canada Research Chair in Innovation and Governance

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