Introduction to Innovation Uncertainties and Socio-Political Legitimization Minitrack

Vernon Bachor
Winona State University
VBachor@winona.edu

Jeremy Hall
University of Nottingham
jeremy.hall@nottingham.ac.uk

Innovation Uncertainties and Socio-Political Legitimization mini-track focuses primarily on innovation uncertainties from a societal perspective and how social-political legitimization supports or hinders processes and organizations' strategies for developing and diffusing new technologies knowledge diffusion and innovation commercialization. The trend for modern corporate management is to be cognizant of the social right for business to exist and to be inclusive of a broader range of stakeholders and the concerns of society. Organizations should thus actively seek out knowledge from various stakeholders as early as possible in the innovation development cycle. Strategies that fail to consider legitimization processes, especially in controversial social environments and/or varying institutional settings, could result in costly delays or promising technology left sitting on the shelf. This track explores how technology developers need to identify key uncertainties of the innovation during the early phases of the technology's development, allowing them to shape the technology for more efficient diffusion.

This year, the mini-track has selected one paper, "Patent Analysis for the Formulation of Technology Policy: Evidence from 4G LTE Industry". The authors combine relative patent advantage data analysis and multivariate analysis to construct a new technology monitoring system that will assist policy-makers to support the formulation of national technology policy by clarifying current technology development trends and emergent technologies. This monitoring system is used to assess patents granted for 4G LTE technology and to evaluate the comparative technological advantages of this technology in the United States, Sweden, China, Japan, Korea, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, and Taiwan.

Overall we are pleased with this year's submissions and look forward to seeing the further growth in the scholarly study of technology and innovation management, ultimately translating into interesting articles submitted to this mini-track.

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