Authors

**Javier Alfonso Gil** is Associate Professor of Economics and Economic Development at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. His research interest covers the fields of development theory, institutional economics and evaluation of public policy. He has written on issues concerning economic development and institutional change.

**Professor Bjørn T. Asheim** is part-time professor at the Centre of Technology, Innovation and Culture, University of Oslo, Norway, and holds the chair in economic geography at the Department of Social and Economic Geography, University of Lund, Sweden. He was previously professor in human geography at the Department of Sociology and Human Geography, University of Oslo. He has also for many years been associated with the Research Council funded STEP Group (Studies in technology, innovation and economic policy) in Oslo as a part-time senior researcher and scientific advisor. He is Associate Editor of *Economic Geography and Regional Studies*, and member of the editorial board of several European scientific journals including *European Planning Studies* and *Journal of Economic Geography*. He has served as an international expert for UNCTAD, OECD and EU/DG XVI. He is well-known internationally for his research in the areas of economic and industrial geography, where his main research specializations include: comparative analyses of industrial districts and industrial clusters; SMEs and innovation policy; technological change and local economic development; globalization and endogenous regional development; regional innovation systems and learning regions. He has produced many international publications within these subjects.

**Professor Poul Rind Christensen** is Head of the Centre for Small Business Studies at the University of Southern Denmark. His main research areas revolve around several interrelated themes: theories on small firms’ internationalization, studies of the evolving internationalization of subcontractors and evolution of regional and global supply networks, including analysis of inter-organizational competence building and collaborative rigidities as well as studies on small enterprise change management and innovation. Recently his studies and publications have centred on entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial processes in small- and medium-sized
companies. He is a member of the Danish Research Unit of Industrial Dynamics (DRUID) and board member of the research organization ‘European Council for Small Business’.

Andreas Peter Cornett, Ph.D, is Associate Professor at the University of Southern Denmark. He holds the Chair of the Nordic Section of the Regional Science Association International and is member of the ‘Wissenschaftlicher Beirat Akademie für Raumforschung und Landesplanung’ Hannover. His areas of research are: the process of integration and the implications for peripheral regions, economic transition and the development of the international economic system, comparative regional policy (EU and national), and regional innovation systems and industrial districts. His recent publications include articles on ‘Regional Cohesion in an Enlarged European Union: An Analysis of Interregional Specialization and Integration’ and together with Per V. Freytag: ‘Innovative relations: a business to business and business to public policy perspective’.

Gioacchino Garofoli is Full Professor in Economics at the Faculty of Economics of Insubria University (Varese, Italy), President of the Italian Section of the Regional Science Association, Coordinator of the European Doctorate on ‘Economics of Production and Development’, and member of the Editorial Board of the journals Regional Studies and Entrepreneurship and Regional Development. His main areas of research deal with endogenous development, industrial districts, models of local development, local innovative systems and strategic planning. He has carried out research for several Directorates of the European Commission and research missions with the World Bank and with FAO. He has published several books on the main items of research (Endogenous Development and Southern Europe, Avebury, Aldershot (UK); Modelli locali di sviluppo, Franco Angeli, Milan; Economia del territorio, Etas, Milan; Industrializzazione diffusa in Lombardia, Franco Angeli, Milan; Desarrollo Local en Europa, with A. Vazquez Barquero, Economistas Libros, Madrid).

Arne Isaksen is assistant professor at Agder University College, Grimstad, Norway, and senior researcher at the STEP Group (Studies in technology, innovation and economic policy) in Oslo. He has a doctoral degree in economic geography from the University of Oslo. Isaksen currently conducts research on innovation systems, regional cluster development, and the role of consultancy companies in regional and industrial development. He has published several books in Norwegian, in addition to many international papers dealing with regional industrial development and regional
clusters, as well as evaluation studies of innovation and regional policy instruments.

**Alexander Kaufmann** holds master’s and doctor’s degrees in economics from the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration. After finishing his studies, he worked on several research projects concerned with technology policy. Later he returned to the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration to become research assistant at the Institute for Urban and Regional Studies focusing on innovation theory and policy. He participated in two TSER-projects within the 4th framework programme of the European Union: ‘Regional innovation systems’ and ‘SME policy and the regional dimension of innovation’. In 2000 he joined the division ‘Systems Research Technology–Economy– Environment’ of the Austrian Research Centers Seibersdorf where he is now senior researcher. His current research interests concern innovation theory – in particular the application of social systems theory on innovation research, evolutionary economics and environmental economics.

**Bernard Musyck** is a Regional Economist. He graduated in Economics at the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium), received his Ph.D. from the University of Sussex (United Kingdom) and worked as a post-doctoral fellow at the Institute of Development Studies in Brighton (United Kingdom), the University of Constance (Germany) and more recently the University of Insubria (Italy). He has been teaching Economics in Cyprus and worked in consultancy for the Regional Development and Innovation team of ADE S.A. in Belgium and for the Urban and Regional Innovation Research Unit (URENIO) of the University of Thessaloniki in Greece, mainly on European projects. His research interests and publications are in regional and local development and more specifically endogenous growth, localized learning and innovation policies for small- and medium-sized firms. He is currently working for Moody’s Interbank Credit Service in Cyprus as a country risk analyst.

**Claire Nauwelaers** is Senior Research Fellow at MERIT, the Maastricht Economic Research Institute on Innovation and Technology at the University of Maastricht, in the Netherlands. Her main areas of research and expertise revolve around the analysis of the functioning of regional and national innovation systems. She is working on policy development, analysis, evaluation, and benchmarking in the areas of Science, Technology and Innovation, for the European Commission and various European national and regional authorities. She has been notably involved in the RITTS, RIS, and Innovation Trendchart programmes of the European
Commission, and evaluated the role of Structural Funds for fostering regional innovation. She recently published books and articles dealing with policy learning in innovation, the role of institutional frameworks, new approaches to cluster policies, and innovation policies in candidate countries.

**David North** is Professor of Regional Development at Middlesex University Business School in London and principal consultant at the University’s Centre for Enterprise & Economic Development Research (CEEDR). His interests are in the field of local and regional economic development, small business development and support policy, and regional innovation support systems. He has published the results of his work widely in journals, books and reports, some recent publications being ‘The Innovativeness and Growth of Rural SMEs during the 1990s’ in *Regional Studies*, ‘Public Sector Support for Innovating SMEs’ in *Small Business Economics*, and ‘Regional Technology Initiatives: Some Insights from the English Regions’ in *European Planning Studies*. With various European partners, David is currently involved in an EU Framework V study entitled ‘The Future of Europe’s Rural Periphery’ which looks at new forms of entrepreneurship and new business formation in rural areas.

**Kristian Philipsen** is Associate Professor at the Department of Marketing at the University of Southern Denmark. His interest in research focuses on the vertical collaboration between companies including studies on small firm growth, small firm management and a special interest in small businesses innovation management. He has also done research on entrepreneurship and the foundation of new firms. He is for the time being on leave from the university, working as a financial manager in Greenland.

**Antonia Sáez-Cala** is Associate Professor of Regional Economics at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. Her main areas of research and expertise are regional policy and the dynamics of local industrial systems. She works mainly on the problem of innovation in local production systems and local development policy.

**David Smallbone** is Professor of Small and Medium Enterprises and Head of the Centre for Enterprise and Economic Development Research (CEEDR) at Middlesex University Business School in the UK. He has published widely on a range of SME-related topics, much of it with an applied policy emphasis. His current research interests include innovation in SMEs, entrepreneurship in transition economies, ethnic minority enterprise, factors influencing the survival and growth of small firms and the role of
trust in business transactions in high trust and low trust environments. Together with other CEEDR colleagues, David has undertaken a variety of research-based projects for clients that include the Small Business Service in the UK, as well as for government departments at home and abroad. David also works part-time as a consultant in the field of SME policy for the OECD.

Franz Tödtling is Professor at the Department of City and Regional Development, Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration. His main research areas are innovation processes and policy, spatial innovation systems and networks as well as regional development and policy. He has been involved in a number of international research projects and co-operations funded by the European Science Foundation, the European Framework Program and the US National Science Foundation. Publications include books such as *The Governance of Innovation in Europe* (jointly with Ph. Cooke and P. Boekholt, Pinter, 2000) and a large number of articles in edited volumes and professional journals such as *Research Policy*, *Technovation*, *Journal of Technology Transfer*, *Papers of the Regional Science Association*, *Regional Studies*, *Environment & Planning* and *European Planning Studies*.

Antonio Vázquez-Barquero is Professor of Economics at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. He was Director of the Instituto del Territorio y Urbanismo in Madrid and worked as a consultant for the EU, OECD, and several Municipalities and Regional Governments. His research interests focus upon matters of economic growth, organization of production, innovation and local development policy. He has published over 50 articles and books, and in 2002 his book *Endogenous Development* was published by Routledge.

Ian Vickers is a senior researcher at the Centre for Enterprise and Economic Development Research at Middlesex University in London. He has worked on a range of research and consultancy projects, particularly on the role of innovation and new technology in regional economic development and on health and safety in small firms.

Ana Isabel Viñas-Apaolaza, from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid of Spain, recently finished her PhD studies. During that period she was involved in research projects about innovation and SMEs, clusters of mature sectors and regional policy, such as ‘SMEs and the Regional Dimension of Innovation’. Currently, her main research issues are related to policy tools for improving technological level in SMEs.
**René Wintjes** is Senior Research Fellow at MERIT (Maastricht Economic Research Institute on Innovation and Technology), University of Maastricht. He joined MERIT at the beginning of 1998. He studied Economic Geography at Nijmegen University and worked at the Faculty of Applied Geography and Planning, Utrecht University. He obtained his PhD at Utrecht University in 2001. The thesis deals with the regional-economic impact and localization process of foreign companies in the Netherlands. At MERIT René Wintjes is mainly involved in research on innovation policy.