

Preface

The present book is the outcome from the third European Meeting of Applied Evolutionary Economics (EMAEE) which took place in April 2003 at the University of Augsburg. The conference was entitled as this volume 'Applied Evolutionary Economics and the Knowledge-based Economies'. The different contributions of this book are a selection of conference papers and deal with various aspects of knowledge-based economies. They also demonstrate how far developed the applied fields of evolutionary economics already are. The various chapters show that evolutionary economics has left the nursery of new academic approaches and offers important insights for the understanding of socio-economic processes of change and development strongly affecting especially the industrialized world.

As organizers of the conference we would also like to use the opportunity of this volume to express our thanks to those who played a considerable role in the success of the conference. We would like to express our warm thanks to Thomas Grebel and Markus Balzat who creatively managed the local organization. Furthermore, important thanks go to Bernd Ebersberger, Koen Frenken, Werner Hölzl, Vanessa Oltra and Paul Windrum and their outstanding work in the scientific committee. Of course, thanks also to our keynote speakers Uwe Cantner, Phil Cooke, Gunnar Eliasson, Ernst Helmstädter, Franco Malerba, Stan Metcalfe, Fritz Rahmeyer and Paolo Saviotti who importantly contributed to the high intellectual level of the conference.

The conference would not have been possible without the support of various public institutions and private firms. First of all, we would like to express our deepest thanks to the DFG (German Research Foundation) and the State of Bavaria for financial support. In addition, Zeuna Stärker (automotive industry), PCI (chemical products), Deutsche Bank and Stadtparkasse Augsburg supported the conference. We must also gratefully acknowledge a donation by the Friends of the University of Augsburg. Finally, the Augsburger bakery Wolff, the dairy producer Zott, the juice company Burkhart, the fruit company Fruchthof Nagel, the brewery Hasenbräu, the Stadtwerke Augsburg and Saeco coffee deserve our deepest thanks.

