Introduction to the second edition

Six years after the first edition of the handbook, we can state that the field of techno-entrepreneurship is more vibrant than ever. As a reminder, techno-entrepreneurship is defined as the entrepreneurial and intrapreneurial activities of both existing and developing companies operating in technology-intensive environments. This edition is richer than the first one with 18 chapters, written by 36 contributors coming from 16 different countries. Furthermore, the contributions cover very different topics, showing the diversity and the maturity of the research in the area. Techno-entrepreneurship has now diffused into the different fields of management and embraces the main issues in management research. By focusing on techno-entrepreneurship, researchers are gaining valuable insights that can be used by governments and other stakeholders in the development or rejuvenation of their economies. At a time of acute economic crises in many countries, developing viable technology-based businesses is a way to develop nations, now and for the future. Having strong high-tech industries is important for emerging and in transition countries as they often lack businesses offering added value and being potential exporters outside of the service sector. And concerning developed countries, many are dependent on mature industries which need to be replaced. The recent success of the e-economy and how it helps the countries that supported its development, shows that investing more in high-tech companies is a wise decision. Nevertheless, there are still many unknowns in the best practices of economy, management, marketing, finance, growth, sustainability, and so on, to ensure the viable development of high-tech sectors. The field of techno-entrepreneurship aims at providing answers that can be used both by entrepreneurs and governments.

The main topics covered in this second edition are:

- The definition of a techno-entrepreneur, skills and characteristics, and differences from an entrepreneur and an intrapreneur.
- The knowledge base of techno-entrepreneurship.
- How technology and technological innovation is discussed in family business studies.
- The capitalization of science and technology knowledge to bridge the commercialization chasm. Trends and impacts of such strategies and supporting mechanisms on techno-entrepreneurship.
The commercialization process of innovation in high-tech small firms.

Techno-entrepreneurship in China and the role of Chinese science and technology parks.

E-entrepreneurship and value creation.

The drivers and barriers in venture capital financing of techno-entrepreneurial start-ups.

Techno-intrapreneurship.

The role of academics in techno-entrepreneurship.

The personal attributes of academic entrepreneurs.

The typologies of spin-out companies from universities.

Technology transfer offices and the promotion of university-industry collaboration.

Demand competition and entrepreneurial entry in high-tech industries based on systemic technologies.

The nascent techno-entrepreneurship supply chain emergence.

Frugal innovation and entrepreneurship.

The drivers of green strategies for sustainable techno-entrepreneurship.

Sustainable techno-entrepreneurship.

I hope that after reading all or some of the chapters you will be better informed as researchers on the state of the field and the areas that deserve further study, or as practitioners on how to develop sustainable high-tech start-ups.

Enjoy the reading!

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