Strategic Pillars of Knowledge-Based Economic Development:
Tertiary Education, Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Applications of ICT

Dale E. Smith
Associate Professor

International Conference on Higher Education and Economic Development
3-5 September 2012
Le Meridien, Point aux Pimentux
This paper proposes that tertiary educational institutions (TEIs):

• must take an active role in fostering a culture of entrepreneurship and

• must stimulate innovation in applications of information & communication technology (ICT)

if the aims of knowledge economy policymakers are to be purposefully achieved.
Strategic Pillars of Knowledge-Based Economic Development

- Knowledge Based Economic Development
- Tertiary Educational Institutions
- Fostering a Culture of Entrepreneurship
- Innovation in Applications of ICT
Key Question [1]

What persona replaces “manager” in symbolic representation of a post-industrial era education ideally suited to the needs and demands of a knowledge-based, technology-driven economy?
The Symbolic Analyst

Symbolic analyst will be someone who is a problem identifier, a problem solver, or an innovator who can visualize new uses of existing technologies. This class of workers includes scientists, engineers, and other scientific or technical specialties as well as marketers, investors, some types of lawyers, developers and a wide variety of consultants.
Key Question [2]

Does entrepreneurship (however defined) correlate with economic performance?
Entrepreneurship and National Income

Nascent entrepreneurship versus per capita income, the U-curve.

Source: Wennekers et al. (2005)
Entrepreneurship and Economic Development

Source: Global Entrepreneurship and the United States (2010)
Key Question [3]

What reforms in the role and focus of tertiary education are required to produce this “entrepreneur” persona while accommodating more generally the strategic imperatives and operating principles of a knowledge-based economy?
Entrepreneurship Education and Regional Development

Creating the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

## Recommendations [1]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Policy Makers</th>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Universities</th>
<th>Educators</th>
<th>Companies</th>
<th>Entrepreneurs</th>
<th>Foundations</th>
<th>NGOs</th>
<th>Media</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Embedded Strategy</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish Coordinating Bodies</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embed Within Existing Bodies</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change Rules and Regulations</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Strategic Pillars of Knowledge-Based Economic Development

Recommendations [2]

Recommendations [3]

Key Question [4]

How to bring together all the moving parts of a knowledge-based economic development strategy that leverages tertiary educational institutions to foster a culture of entrepreneurship while stimulating innovation in applications of ICT?
Knowledge-Based Development Strategies Framework

Strategic Pillars of Knowledge-Based Economic Development

- Innovation in Applications of ICT
- Fostering a Culture of Entrepreneurship
- Knowledge-Based Economic Development

Knowledge-Based Economic Development

1. Economic Development
   - Trade Opportunity
     - Public Policy
   - TFP Growth

2. Institutional Innovation
   - Investment Opportunity
     - Governance Structures
     - EVA Growth

3. Corporate Development
   - Market Opportunity
     - Transaction Architectures
     - Increasing Returns

4. Organizational Innovation
   - Product Opportunity
     - Factor Flows
     - Synchronization Value

5. Structural Innovation
   - Research & Development
     - Tacit Learning
     - Intellectual Capital

Strategic Knowledge Priorities

16
Questions?

International Conference on Higher Education and Economic Development
3-5 September 2012
Le Meridien, Point aux Pimentux
mindspace 45, cyber city, ebene, mauritius

talk to me

dale@isitechbs.com
+230 464 1281
ibs.ac.mu