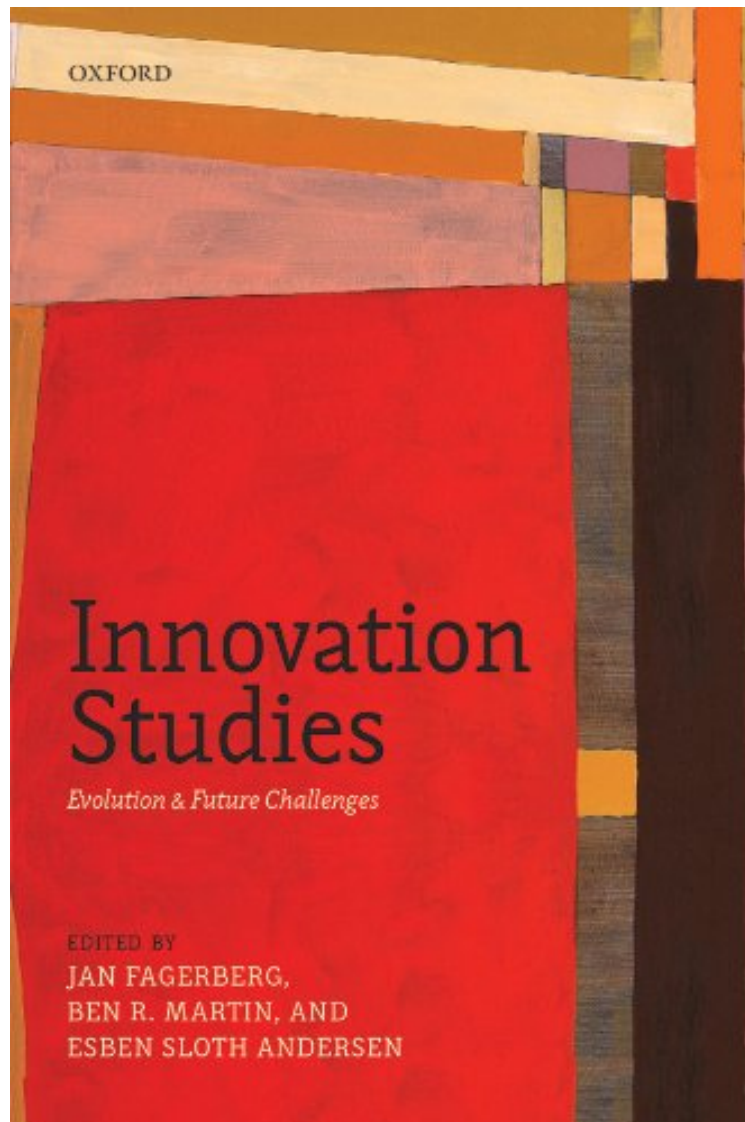


Innovation Studies: Evolution and Future Challenges

Jan Fagerberg, Ben R. Martin, Esben Sloth Andersen
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Jan Fagerberg, Ben R. Martin, Esben Sloth Andersen : Innovation Studies: Evolution and Future Challenges before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Innovation Studies: Evolution and Future Challenges:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A useful summary of the big picture. By Dr John Barker A useful summary of the European scene in innovation studies. Lundvall, who makes the major contribution, is, as always, very insightful. The focus of the book is essentially on the 'macro' aspects of innovation studies (company and national endeavours) and seems to pay very little attention to the curious fact that, for all the multitude of courses and research programs on innovation, there is still no book that ties together the 'micro' aspects of the subject, ie the way that the

resources of 'money, management, markets and manpower' come together to give affect to 'the transformation of an idea into something useful'. The books by Utterback and Nonaka from several decades ago were a valuable start, but most of what has been published since then has been piecemeal and anecdotal. Innovation studies will never become 'innovation science' until this issue is addressed.

Innovation is increasingly recognized as a vitally important social and economic phenomenon worthy of serious research study. Firms are concerned about their innovation ability, particularly relative to their competitors. Politicians care about innovation, too, because of its presumed social and economic impact. However, to recognize that innovation is desirable is not sufficient. What is required is systematic and reliable knowledge about how best to influence innovation and to exploit its effects to the full. Gaining such knowledge is the aim of the field of innovation studies, which is now at least half a century old. Hence, it is an opportune time to ask what has been achieved and what we still need to know more about. This is what this book sets out to explore. Written by a number of central contributors to the field, it critically examines the current state of the art and identifies issues that merit greater attention. The focus is mainly on how society can derive the greatest benefit from innovation and what needs to be done to achieve this. However, to learn more about how society can benefit more from innovation, one also needs to understand innovation processes in firms and how these interact with broader social, institutional and political factors. Such issues are therefore also central to the discussion here.

Innovation studies: Evolution Future Challenges collects the current ideas of several key authors such as Jan Fagerberg, B-A Lundvall and Ben Martin in the field of Innovation studies. The book is organized in two main sections that summarise the state-of-art of a domain that is almost half-century-old. Firstly, this collective book systematizes the evolution and development of the study of innovation, facilitating its differentiation to other related and adjacent domains like Science and Technology Studies and Entrepreneurship studies. Secondly, it presents the main challenges for Innovation studies in years ahead encompassing new debates, concepts and analyses. Innovation studies is relevant for all those focusing in the understanding of the innovation phenomena. It is particularly relevant for those that are entering in the field and need a roadmap for exploration. * Hugo Pinto, Universidade do Algarve *About the Author Jan Fagerberg, Professor, Center for Technology, Innovation and Culture, University of Oslo, and Professor, Department of Business and Management, Aalborg University, Ben R. Martin, Professor of Science and Technology Policy Studies, SPRU, University of Sussex, Esben Sloth Andersen, Professor, Department of Business and Management, Aalborg University Jan Fagerberg is Professor at the Department of Business and Management at Aalborg University in Denmark and the Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture (TIK) at the University of Oslo. In his research Fagerberg has, among other areas, focused on the relationship between technology (innovation and diffusion) and competitiveness, economic growth, and development. He has also worked on innovation theory, innovation systems, and innovation policy. Fagerberg has published extensively on these and other topics in books and journals, and his research is widely cited and disseminated. Ben Martin is Professor of Science and Technology Policy Studies in SPRU, University of Sussex. Between 1996 and 2004, he served as SPRU Director. He is also an Associate Fellow at the Centre for Science and Policy (CSaP), and Senior Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Business Research, Judge Business School, both at the University of Cambridge. His research for the last 35 years has focused on science policy. He helped pioneer techniques for evaluating scientific laboratories, research programmes, and national scientific performance, and for conducting 'technology foresight'. In recent years, he has conducted research on the benefits from government funding of basic research, the changing nature and role of the university, the impact of the UK Research Assessment Exercise, creative knowledge environments, and the evolution of the field of science policy and innovation studies. Esben Sloth Andersen is Professor of Evolutionary Economics at the Department of Business and Management at Aalborg University. His research has focussed on the theory, modelling and simulation of economic evolution, innovation in a systemic perspective, and evolution in the history of economic thought with special emphasis of the work of Joseph Schumpeter