



Innovation Research Seminar

Sebastian Schäfer, M.Sc.

Essays on Collaborative Innovation:
The Case of Open Innovation and Crowdsourcing



When and where:

19 October 2015

noon to 1.30pm

TIM Social Area

Kackertstraße 7

3rd Floor



Find Sebastian
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Summary: Besides its crucial relevance for the rise and fall of organizations, innovation is increasingly recognized as a competitive measure that explains differences in firm success by managers, policy makers, and researchers. Consequently, innovative search, i.e. an organizations effort dedicated to searching for, generating, and adapting innovations, is a top priority in business and research. Innovation and innovative search is hardly an isolated affair any longer. Firms often face innovation challenges so complex and distant from their core competencies that they cannot solve them all by themselves. It is against this backdrop that innovators' attention has begun to shift towards their broader innovation ecosystems outside the focal firm boundaries. Collaborative innovation, i.e. the search for, sharing of, access to, and mutual exploitation of innovation-relevant resources, knowledge, and information with external partners, promises to bring forth new knowledge, solutions, and ideas that aid problem solving and enhance firms' innovative performance. This dissertation examines open innovation and crowdsourcing as two valuable frameworks to study collaborative innovation in greater detail.

Speaker Bio: Sebastian Schäfer is a research associate and doctoral student at the Innovation, Strategy and Organisation Group. He studied business economics at the University of Cologne, the Ruhr-University Bochum and the California State University. In his doctoral studies, Sebastian Schäfer tries to shed further light on the domain of crowdsourcing and innovation contests, multinational innovation, and collaboration across boundaries. Together with Professors Salge and Piening, he succeeded to publish his research in the Journal of World Business. Moreover, he presented studies at the AoM Annual Meetings 2014 and 2016, and the SMS Annual Conference 2013.

Defense Training Format: Seminar participants are invited to contribute positive ideas and feedback to further improve the doctoral thesis defense presentation.