



Innovation Research Seminar

J. Nils Foege, M.Sc.

Essays on Innovation, Collaboration, and Imitation:
Exploring Value Appropriation Strategies in Open Innovation



Summary: A growing number of scholars have begun to point to the potential downside of open innovation and crowdsourcing. Despite their benefits, collaborative activities often involve the threat of unintended knowledge leakages resulting in value appropriation concerns. Through opening up the innovation process—i.e., by rendering firm boundaries permeable—and engaging in crowdsourcing activities—i.e., revealing knowledge on online platforms—the focal firm risks to make otherwise secret knowledge available to its collaboration partners or third parties. In this way, openness exacerbates the protection of resources from expropriation by others and impedes the focal firms value appropriation efforts. The purpose of this research is to examine potential drawbacks arising from collaborative activities. In particular, I investigate the antecedents, the contingencies, and consequences of collaboration-induced IP infringement.

Speaker Bio: J. Nils Foege is a research associate at the Business Management Group at Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster and a former member of the Innovation, Strategy, and Organization Group. He studied management and economics at the Ruhr-University Bochum and the Universiteit Utrecht. In his doctoral studies, J. Nils Foege examined the downsides of innovation collaboration. From January to April 2016, J. Nils Foege has held a position as an academic visitor at University of Cambridge.

Conference format: After presenting the essays, seminar participants are invited to discuss the research and contribute positive ideas.

When and where:

23 November 2016

noon to 1.30 pm

TIM Social Area

Kackertstraße 7

3rd Floor



Find J. Nils
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