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6th Framework Programme of the European Union

CONFERENCE CALL

DIME - DRUID Fundamental on Open and Proprietary Innovation Regimes:

Opportunities and limitations of the open source models of innovation and the role of intellectual property rights

June 17, 2008

**- EXTENDED DEADLINE -
May 1st, 2008**

<http://www.druid.dk/celebration2008>
<http://www.dime-eu.org/wp14/conferences/ipross>

When discussing the impact of information and communication technology (ICT) on knowledge diffusion, when investigating the creation of value through community-based innovation, when imagining policies able to improve the IPR structure, what is really at stake is a broader and more fundamental question: *“What is the most suitable structure for knowledge production?”*

Until recently, it was commonly assumed that innovation benefited from the firm’s ability to appropriate the rents from its investments in R&D, through the use of intellectual property rights, secrecy, and the like. This assumption is being increasingly challenged.

The growth, widespread use, and establishment of alternative models of knowledge creation and appropriation all raise the intriguing possibility that innovation might successfully be incubated under far more open conditions, often associated with non-proprietary IPRs.

Thus, ‘Open Source’ or ‘Free’ development methods have raised their profile, and the use of General Public Licence (GPL), Copyleft, Creative Commons licence, and other licensing forms, as well as new approaches like “free revealing” and “crowd sourcing”, etc., are not unfamiliar alternatives. Especially the software sector has experimented with such alternatives.

In this Fundamental, we will focus on discussing the opportunities and limitations of the free and open source models of innovation in the context of intellectual property rights. Examples of questions to be addressed include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Many firms have developed business models based on the free and open source development methods, but how sustainable are these models in practice?
- What are possibilities, benefits and welfare effects for firms and nations, as well as the costs, of the new alternative approaches, and what is the role of intellectual property rights?
- Who are the stakeholders in the free and open source models, what are their respective interests, and how do they interact to create value or solve conflicts?
- Are the free and open source development methods suitable for architectural innovation? For radical innovation?
- Is the “engine” of the free and open source development approach limited to software, or can it successfully be extended into other areas such as biotechnology, mechanical engineering, agriculture or the creative industries?

We seek to gather contributions from different points of view, to unveil the complexities of the issues, and to go into depth.

Structure of the DIME - DRUID Fundamental

The Fundamental will consist of paper sessions and a round table debate of leading scholars who have demonstrated wide knowledge of the issues raised. The confirmed speakers by now are

- **Alfonso Gambardella** (*Università Commerciale "Luigi Bocconi"*)
- **Ashish Arora** (*Carnegie Mellon University*)
- **Bronwyn Hall** (*University of California, Berkeley*)
- **Carliss Y. Baldwin** (*Harvard Business School*)
- **Dietmar Harhoff** (*University of Munich*)
- **Georg von Krogh** (*ETH Zürich*)
- **James Bessen** (*Boston University and Research on Innovation*)
- **Jean-Michel Dalle** (*University Pierre-et-Marie-Curie*)
- **Joachim Henkel** (*Munich University of Technology*)
- **Paul David** (*Stanford University and Oxford Internet Institute*)
- **Rishab Ghosh** (*MERIT*)
- **Sonali Shah** (*University of Washington*)

Please, check the *Fundamental web site* (see web details below) in order to find the updated list.

In the spirit of the open source model, we strongly encourage audience participation, and will try to create a discussion as open as possible.

~ **Participants who have registered for the Fundamental are invited to submit papers sending an email to ipr_oss.ino@cbs.dk before ~~March 31st, 2008~~ **May 1st, 2008 (EXTENDED DEADLINE)****, so that they can be made available to everyone registered for the Fundamental. Only original and not already published papers at a reasonable standard will be accepted. The papers will be published in the DIME IPR working paper series and hosted on the *Fundamental web site* (see web details below). If the quality and the number of the submitted papers allows it, the best papers will also receive the opportunity to be presented at a **poster session** which will run during the day.

~ Papers submitted after this deadline and before June 17th can be **submitted to the DIME working paper series on IPRs: <http://www.dime-eu.org/working-papers/wp14>** by emailing to ipr_oss.ino@cbs.dk.

Fundamental web site

Further information regarding this workshop, such as confirmed speakers and the programme, will appear on the link to the Fundamental on both the:

- DIME web site: <http://www.dime-eu.org/wp14/conferences/ipross>, and the
- DRUID web site: www.druid.dk/celebration2008

Publication plans

- The papers will be posted online as part of the *DIME Working Paper Series on Intellectual Property Rights* as well as on the *DRUID conference website*.
- It is planned to publish the best papers from the Fundamental in a special edition of the *International Journal of Technology and Globalisation*.

Venue

- The Fundamental venue is Copenhagen Business School.
- The Fundamental will be followed by a conference dinner in the Restaurant Cassiopeia, at the Tycho Brahe Planetarium in Copenhagen.
- For other information on the venue (hotels, maps, etc.) check the DRUID conference web site www.druid.dk/celebration2008.

Registration

- The Fundamental is open at no additional costs for DRUID conference participants. The DRUID conference web site www.druid.dk/celebration2008 will be open for registration by January 1st, 2008.
- There is no fee for those wishing to participate in the Fundamental alone. Registration of such can take place by emailing ipr_oss.ino@cbs.dk.
- Everyone (or as far as space allows on a first come first served basis) can attend the dinner at the Restaurant Cassiopeia at a minimum fee (check the web site).

Organizers

Birgitte Andersen. Reader in the Economics and Management of Innovation at the University of London, Birkbeck College, and Visiting Professor at the British Institute of Technology and Ecommerce (BITE). She is the director for the DIME Work Programme on 'The Influence of Rules, Norms and Standards on Knowledge Exchange' which has a special focus on IPRs. Her current research is on the dynamics of IPRs in with respect to economic performance, growth and sustainable development at all levels. Email: b.andersen@bbk.ac.uk
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Lee Davis. Associate Professor, Department of Innovation and Organizational Economics, and Research Fellow, Centre on Law, Economics and Financial Institutions, both at the Copenhagen Business School, and a member of both DIME and DRUID. Her main research interests are firm choices of appropriability strategies, incentives to invention and innovation and the role of intellectual property rights (IPRs), and open and proprietary innovation regimes. Email: lda.ino@cbs.dk
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Francesco Rullani. Assistant Professor at the Department of Innovation and Organizational Economics, Copenhagen Business School. His research is focused on the open source model of innovation, particularly the role of institutions in knowledge development as evidenced by the dynamics of community software development. Email: fr.ino@cbs.dk
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