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1. Introduction

CIRCLE (Centre for Innovation, Research and Competence in the Learning Economy) is a multidisciplinary research centre spanning several faculties at Lund University and Blekinge Institute of Technology. CIRCLE was formally established on July 1st 2004 and the second half of 2004 was a period of formation. Twelve new positions for associate professors, post-doctoral fellows (assistant professor/'forskarassistent’), and doctoral students were announced and they had all been filled by January 2005. Hence, 2005 has been the first full year of operation.

The research now being carried out at CIRCLE is organized into four main research areas addressing different aspects of innovation and knowledge creation. They are:

- learning in innovation systems and the consequences of R&D and innovation for productivity growth
- regional innovation systems
- the entrepreneurial university and the creation of research-based firms
- public policy in the field of innovation, R&D and competence building in a comparative perspective.

A seminar series has also been started at CIRCLE. It has included several guest lecturers, e.g., Professor Poh-Kam Wong, National University of Singapore, Professor Richard Whitley, University of Manchester, Professor Edward Lorenz, University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis and Professor Bart Nooteboom, Tilburg University. CIRCLE’s own research is also presented and discussed in the seminars, which is one of several ways of achieving cross-fertilization among the different research areas and disciplines represented at CIRCLE.

Another CIRCLE activity aiming at cross-disciplinary understanding is the so-called ‘reading circle’. In each meeting of this group, a couple of key articles related to innovation, selected from the literature associated with one of the academic disciplines represented at CIRCLE, are discussed. These discussions help to clarify differences and similarities in relation to the other disciplines’ perspectives. This activity is intended to establish a ‘common language’, although not necessarily a common perspective, among the different disciplines in CIRCLE.

CIRCLE has also established a homepage (http://www.circle.lu.se) providing information about CIRCLE, its staff and activities. To enable early external dissemination of research results, an electronic working paper series is being published on the homepage.

In addition to its research and dissemination activities, CIRCLE has initiated an ESST Master’s programme in Society, Science and Technology. The programme started in August 2005 with about 30 students from all parts of the world.

The staff during 2005 has consisted of five part-time professors, one part-time associate professor, one full-time senior lecturer, three full-time post-docs, one part-time post-doc, and 5-7 PhD students. In addition to the research staff, CIRCLE has employed a part-time director of studies for the ESST MA programme and a part-time secretary.

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1 ESST is the acronym for the European Inter-university Association on Society, Science and Technology.
2. Publications during 2004 - 2005

This section of the report covers publications and other dissemination activities by CIRCLE staff from July 2004 to December 2005. The main categories addressed here include: external publication, texts accepted for publication, conference participation, academic assignments, and interaction with society.

2.1. External publications

(CIRCLE authors in bold)

2.1.1. Journal articles and book chapters


"frontlinjen”. En bok om forskningsstiftelserna, konkurrenskraften och politikens möjligheter, Nora, Nya Doxa.


2.1.2. Books and booklets


2.2. Texts accepted for publication during 2005

2.2.1. Journal articles and book chapters


Chaminade, C. and Edquist, C. (forthcoming), From theory to practice. The use of the systems of innovation approach in innovation policy, in Hage, J. and de Meeus (eds.) Innovation, Learning and Institutions, Oxford University Press.


2.2.2. Books and booklets


2.3 Working papers

2.3.1 CIRCLE Working Paper Series


**Chaminade, C.** and **Edquist, C.** (2005), _From Theory to Practice: The Use of the Systems of Innovation Approach for Innovation Policy_, WP 2005/02.

**Chaminade, C.** and **Vang Lauridsen, J.** (2005), _Innovation Policies for Asian SMEs: An Innovation Systems Perspective_, WP 2005/06.
Coenen, L. and Asheim, B. (2005), Constructing Regional Advantage at the Northern Edge, WP 2005/01.


2.3.2 Other


3. Conferences during 2004-2005

3.1. Participation with presentation of paper


Asheim, B. (2005), Invited panel speaker and session organiser at AAG (Association of American Geographers) Annual Meeting, Denver, April


Asheim, B. (2005), *Constructing regional innovation systems: a strategy for upgrading industrial districts in a globalising knowledge economy*, invited key note speaker at International workshop on ‘Innovation and proximity’, Faculty of Economics, University of Pavia, May.


Asheim, B. (2005), *Constructing Regional Advantage: Talents, Knowledge Bases and RIS*, keynote address at ERA SPACES workshop on ‘Unpacking geographical spaces in research and innovation in Europe’, Bilbao, October.

Asheim, B. (2005), *IPR in innovation systems*, invited speaker at workshop on ‘The role of IPR in biotechnology innovation’, European University Institute, Florence, October.

Asheim, B. (2005), *Constructing Regional Advantage: Knowledge Bases and Regional Innovation Systems*, invited presentation at Sweden-Japan innovation seminar, University of Tokyo, November.


Technology Management: Knowledge, Innovation and Competitiveness, Salvador de Bahia Brazil, October.


Coenen, L., Moodysson, J. and Asheim, B. (2005), Knowledge bases and spatial patterns of collaboration: comparing the pharma and agro-food bioregions Scania and Saskatoon, presented at “Bringing Science to Life” conference held at the Rotmans Business School at the University of Toronto, May. (Invited speaker)


Coenen, L. (2005), Innovation potential evaluation of SMEs: The European perspective and MARTE project, workshop at the University of Brescia, Italy, Nordic SMEs and Regional Innovation Systems. (Invited speaker)

Edquist, C. (2004), The Systemic Nature of Innovation – Causes and Implications, presented at the conference “Research, Innovation and Economic Performance – What do we Know and Where are We Heading?” organised by the European Commission, the Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture of the University of Oslo, and Oxford University Press to mark the launch of the Oxford Handbook of Innovation, Brussels, October.


Gabrielsson, J. and Politis, D. (2005), Prediction or control? Exploring the influence of career experience and career motives on entrepreneurial decision making, paper presented at RENT XIX - Research in entrepreneurship and small business conference, Naples. (Received the Best Paper Award)


Högseiulius, P. (2005), The Dynamics of Innovation in Eastern Europe: Lessons from Estonia, invited presentation of the book with the same title, PRAXIS seminar on Technology Transfer and Innovation: General Evidence and the Case of Estonia, Tallinn, October.

Högseiulius, P. (2005), History as a Creative Force in Post-Socialist Systems of Innovation – The Underestimated Role of Inherited Competencies, paper presented at the 8th International Conference on Technology Policy and Innovation, Lodz, July.


Jacob, M. (2005), *The Multiversity: Possible Futures for the Swedish University*, keynote lecture to Conference Högskolor och Samhälle i Samverkan (HSS05), Östersund, April.


Landström, H. (2005), Presentation at Innovation Dynamics, Copenhagen, January.


Landström, H. (2005), Keynote speech at The Arena of Informal Capital, Brussels, April.


Vang Lauridsen, J. (2005), *Rethinking the spatial organization of creative industries*, paper presented at NGM, May. (Resubmitted to Geoforum)

3.2. Participation

Asheim, B. Invited participant at workshop on ‘Theories of transformation: On evolution, learning and institutional change’ in honour of professor Bart Nooteboom, Erasmus University, Rotterdam, November 2004.


3.3 Arrangement of conferences


Coenen, L., the Inaugural Nordic Geographers Meeting held in Lund, May 2005.


Jacob, M., Member of the Organising Committee for the 5th Triple Helix Conference, Turin, 2005.

3.4 Guest lectures

Asheim, B. (2005), Talents, knowledge bases and innovative regions: Exploring the importance of face-to-face communication and buzz, guest lecture, Department of Economics, University of Padua, March.

Asheim, B. (2005), Guest lectures, Master Programme, Karlstad University, April.

Asheim, B. (2005), Constructing Regional Advantage: Talents, Knowledge Bases and RIS, guest lecture, Oslo School of Management, October.
4. Academic assignments

Asheim, B. was the Deputy Director of The Centre for Innovation, Research and Competence in the Learning Economy (CIRCLE) during 2004-2005. (www.circle.lu.se)

Edquist, C. was the Director of The Centre for Innovation, Research and Competence in the Learning Economy (CIRCLE) during 2004-2005. (www.circle.lu.se)

Edquist, C. was during 2004 a member of the Research Committee of the KK Foundation (KK-stiftelsen), Stockholm. (KK stands for Knowledge and Competence.)

Edquist, C. served as a member of the Scientific Committee of the PRIME Network of Excellence during 2005. PRIME stands for Policies for Research and Innovation in the Move towards the European Research Area and is funded by the EU. (www.prime-noe.org).

Edquist, C. was during 2005 an advisor to The Department of Science Policy Studies, National Institute for Science and Technology Policy and Strategy Studies, Hanoi, Vietnam regarding a research programme entitled “The Market Institutions for Technology Transfer to Agricultural Small and Medium Enterprises in Vietnam”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of supervisor</th>
<th>Name of CIRCLE PhD student</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asheim, Bjørn</td>
<td>Coenen, Lars, Jan Vang-Lauridsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landström, Hans</td>
<td>Brumsnes, Thomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nilsson, Jan-Evert</td>
<td>Walter, Mareile, Selander, Sten</td>
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<td>Schön, Lennart</td>
<td>Malmberg, Claes</td>
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Note: The supervisors also supervise additional PhD students outside CIRCLE.

5. The ‘third task’, i.e. interaction with society during 2004 - 2005


Asheim, B. (2005), Learning and institutional change in regional innovation systems – the Nordic experience, invited key note speaker at Conference on ‘Politiche dell’innovazione e sistemi territoriali innovativi imparare dai leader’, Fondazione CRT/Centra de Ricerca e Documentazione ‘Luigi Einaudi’, Turin, April.

Asheim, B. (2005), Organiser of workshop at the 6th European Biennial of Towns and Town Planners, Malmö, June, (see above).

Asheim, B. (2005), *Creative Environments – European Cities and ’The Creative Class’*, invited presentation for the Town planning department, Malmö municipality, October.


Asheim, B. (2005), Participant on ’Swedish Innovation Studies Mission to Japan’, organised by VINNOVA and ITPS, November.

Asheim, B. (2005), Member and rapporteur in DG Research Expert Group on ‘Constructing Regional Advantage’, EU, Brussels.

Asheim, B. Member of two program committees of VINNOVA (‘Learning and sustainable working life’ and ‘VINNEX Center’).

Asheim, B. Member of steering committee of the research programme ’Value Creation 2010’, Norwegian Research Council.


Edquist, C. was a member of the ‘Scientific Forum’ of ‘Forum för Småföretagsforskning’ (FSF; ‘Swedish Foundation for Small Business Research’).

Edquist, C. was a member of Studieförbundet Näringsliv och Samhälle, SNS (The Center for Business and Policy Studies). SNS is an independent network of leading decision makers from the private and public sectors that share a commitment to social and economic development in Sweden.

Edquist, C. was during 2005 a member of ‘Innovation Forum’. ‘Innovation Forum’ is a collaboration initiative involving the main actors in the regional innovation system where Lund University is located. It includes the heads of Lund University, the regional administration of ‘Region Skåne’, the science park ‘Idéon’, the Technology Bridging Foundation and firms.

Edquist, C. was during 2004 an ‘IMIT fellow’, i.e. fellow of The Institute for the Management of Innovation and Technology (IMIT), Stockholm, Sweden. IMIT is a scientific Institute. Its aim is to pursue and promote research and development in technical and industrial renewal and administration, as well as participating in training in this sphere.

Edquist, C. served during 2005 on the boards/juries of two innovation prizes: Venture Cup Syd and the innovation price awarded by the Development Company of Lund University (LUAB) together with Öhrlings PricewaterhouseCoopers.
Edquist, C. is from 2005 a member of the Board of the Investment Committee of The Development Company of Lund University (LUAB). It has the role of evaluating proposals to LUAB from new innovative firms that need seed capital funding.

Ejermo, O. (2005), Invited speaker at the Centennial celebration of the founding of Trelleborg AB held in Värnamo, October.


Gabrielsson, J. (2005), Presentation for Styrelseakademien Halland about research on how to organize board work to support firm-level entrepreneurship in small firms, Halmstad, February.


6. External research contacts during 2004 - 2005

Asheim, B., Editor of ‘Economic Geography’ and ‘Regional Studies’. Member editorial board of Journal of Economic Geography and European Planning Studies. Referee for several international journals.

Asheim, B., Referee for Swedish Research Council, VINNOVA and Norwegian Research Council.

Asheim, B., Member PhD-evaluation committees at Aalborg University, Copenhagen Business School and University of Oslo.

Asheim, B., Member of professorial evaluation committees at University of Oslo and Stockholm University.

Asheim, B., Member of International Advisory Committee for the Canadian Innovation Systems Research Network and MCRI Cluster project, funded by the Canadian Social Science Research Council (2001-2005), and invited participant at their annual conference.


Gabrielsson, J., Involved in an ongoing research project called “The Value Creating Board” initiated by the Norwegian School of Management, BI. Apart from Norway and Sweden, the research project involves researchers from Finland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and Italy. Three workshops were arranged within the project during 2005: one in
January at Norefjell (Norway), one prior to the 4th EURAM Annual Conference in Munich in May, and one in Oslo at the Norwegian School of Management, BI in December. Gabrielsson was invited as a coordinator and presenter at all three workshops.

**Gabrielsson, J.**, Co-chair at the corporate governance track at the EURAM conference 2005, together with Professor Morten Huse (chair), Norwegian School of Management, BI, and Associate Professor Theo Postma (co-chair), University of Groningen, Netherlands.