

Josephine V. Rekers

Office Address:
CIRCLE, Lund University
PO Box 117
S-22100 Lund

E-mail:
Josephine.Rekers@Circle.lu.se

CURRENT POSITION

2010-2012 **Post-Doctoral Researcher**
Centre for Innovation, Research and Competence in the Learning Economy (CIRCLE), Lund University, Sweden.

EDUCATION

- 2005-2010 **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**
Department of Geography, University of Toronto, Canada
Thesis: *“Considering adoption: How are innovations validated in cultural and science-based industries?”*
Committee: Meric S. Gertler (advisor), Jason Hackworth, Deborah Leslie, Harald Bathelt, Richard DiFrancesco, Gernot Grabher.
- 2004-2005 **Master of Arts (MA)**
Department of Geography, University of Toronto, Canada.
Thesis: *“The firm-place relationship in a geographically open system”*
Committee: Meric S. Gertler (advisor), John Britton, David Wolfe
- 2001-2004 **Honours of Bachelor of Arts (Hon. BA)** (with High Distinction)
Specialist in Urban, Economic and Social Geography; Minor in Psychology
Innis College, University of Toronto, Canada.
Thesis: *“Retail in Transition: A case study on the transformation of Little Italy, 1980 - 2004”*
Committee: Jason Hackworth (advisor), John Britton
- 1999-2001 International Baccalaureate (IB) Bi-lingual diploma
International School of The Hague, The Netherlands
- 1997-1999 International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)
United World College of South East Asia, Singapore;
International School of The Hague, The Netherlands

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Economic geography
- Systems of innovation
- Knowledge transfer
- Regional economic development

SCHOLARLY QUALIFICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles and Reports

Hackworth, J. and Rekers, J. 2005. Ethnic packaging and gentrification: The case of four neighbourhoods in Toronto in *Urban Affairs Review* 41(2), 211-236

Hackworth, J. and Rekers, J. 2005. *Ethnic identity, place marketing, and gentrification in Toronto*. Centre for Urban and Community Studies Research Report 203. (ISBN: 0-7727-1442-8).

Working papers and manuscript in preparation

Rekers J.V. (in preparation) The social dynamics of innovation: Understanding knowledge transfer, reception and adoption.

Rekers J.V. (in preparation) Introducing innovations: the role of market institutions and intermediaries in cultural and science-based industries.

Rekers J.V. (in preparation) We're number three! Beta-cities in the cultural economy.

Other Publications

Gertler, M.S., Vinodrai, T., Rekers, J. and Pennington S. 2008. *Dynamics in the biomedical equipment and technology sector: Assessing Ontario's strengths and challenges*. Final report presented to Health Technology Exchange, July 2008

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2006-2010 **Research Assistant**, Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto. *Social Dynamics of Economic Performance: Innovation and Creativity in City-Regions*. Funded by a Major Collaborative Research Initiative (MCRI) Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada. Supervisor: Meric S. Gertler

2007-2008 **Research Assistant**, Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto. *Dynamics in the biomedical equipment and technology sector: Assessing Ontario's strengths and challenges*. Funded by Health Technology Exchange. Supervisors: Meric S. Gertler and T. Vinodrai

2004-2006 **Research Assistant**, Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto. *Innovation Systems and Economic Development: The Role of Local and Regional Clusters in Canada*. Funded by a Major Collaborative Research Initiative (MCRI) Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada. Supervisor: Meric S. Gertler and Nichola Lowe

PAPERS PRESENTED TO MEETINGS AND SYMPOSIA

Rekers, J.V. 2010. *Introducing Innovations: The role of market intermediaries and institutions in culture and science-based industries*. Presented at the DRUID Society Summer Conference 2010, London, UK. June 16-18, 2010. Nominated for DRUID Best Young Scholar Paper Award 2010

Rekers, J.V. 2010. *Market development through communities*. Special session on "Firms, economies and communities". Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Washington, DC. April 14-18, 2010.

Rekers, J.V. 2009. *We're number three! Beta cities in the cultural economy*. Presented, organized and chaired Special sessions on "Creating and capturing demand in the knowledge economy: marketing products and producing markets I and II" at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Las Vegas. March 22-27, 2009.

Rekers, J.V. 2008. *Beta cities in the knowledge economy: Demand assets for culture and science-based industries*. Presented at the seminar series of the Program on Globalization and Regional Innovation Systems (PROGRIS) at the University of Toronto, Toronto. December 4, 2008.

Rekers, J.V. 2008. *Beta-cities in the knowledge economy: Harnessing demand dynamics in art and science*. Special session on "Producing, consuming and diffusing the knowledge economy". Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers, St. Catharines. October 17-19, 2008.

Rekers, J.V. 2008. *Preparing demand: Cities, scenes and the reception of creativity*. Special session on "Conducting creativity: the role of cities as containers of cultural scenes". Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Boston. April 14-19, 2008.

Rekers, J.V. 2008. *Introducing innovations: the role of market institutions and intermediaries in art and science*. Presented at the Danish Research Unit for Industrial Dynamics (DRUID) Winter conference 2008 Aalborg, Denmark. January 17-19, 2008.

Rekers, J.V. 2007. *The role of the city region in constructing credibility and respect*. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Innovation Systems Research Network (ISRN) Graduate Student Session, Vancouver. May 5, 2007.

Rekers, J.V. 2007. *Communities and knowledge circulation in the innovation process - A relational approach*. Special session on "New economic geographies – theoretical and methodological issues". Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, San Francisco. April 17-21, 2007.

Rekers, J. 2006. *Place of products: The geographies of sudoku and crossword puzzles*. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Chicago. March 7-11, 2006.

PEDAGOGICAL QUALIFICATIONS

Instructor

2008-2010 **GGR220H: The Spatial Organization of Economic Activity**
Department of Geography, University of Toronto.
Fall 2009: Enrollment: 100 undergraduate students
Fall 2008: Enrollment: 188 undergraduate students

Teaching Assistant

2004-2008 GGR 220Y: The Spatial Organization of Economic Activity
Department of Geography, University of Toronto
Instructors: Prof. DiFrancesco, Prof. Britton, Prof. Leslie

Summer 2008 GGR 323H: Population Geography
Department of Geography, University of Toronto
Instructor: Dr. Leydon

Summer 2006 GGR 352H: Economic Geography
Department of Geography, University of Toronto at Mississauga
Instructor: Mr. Legare

Guest Lecturer

2006 INI306: Experiential Learning in Toronto and the GTA, "Gentrification and Land-use". Invited by Professor Shauna Brail, Urban Studies Program, Innis College, University of Toronto. November.

2005 GGR220: The Spatial Organization of Economic Activity, "Von Thunen and Location Rent". Invited by Professor Richard DiFrancesco, Department of Geography, University of Toronto. November.

Additional Training

Fall 2009 **THE500: Teaching Higher Education - Teaching theory, style and practice.**
Woodsworth College, University of Toronto

ACADEMIC HONOURS

2007-2009 SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship - Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Value \$20,000/annum for 24 months

2006-2007 Neptis Foundation / OGS Scholarship - Department of Geography / Ontario Graduate Scholarship Program, Value \$15,000

2005-2006 J.M. Tomczak / OGS Scholarship - Department of Geography / Ontario Graduate Scholarship Program, Value \$15,000

2004-2005 University of Toronto Fellowship - Faculty of Arts and Science, University of Toronto, Value \$9000

2003-2004 Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award - Department of Geography, University of Toronto

2001-2002 University of Toronto Scholar - University of Toronto, Value \$3000

2001-2004 Dean's List in recognition of academic excellence - Faculty of Arts and Science, University of Toronto, 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-2004