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The Corporate Impact of Academic Research

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Why Research Impact on Corporate?

Mission

Contribute to the real world

Strategy

Engagement with corporate stakeholders

Funding

Corporate can supplement funding

Teaching

Enhance relevance in teaching



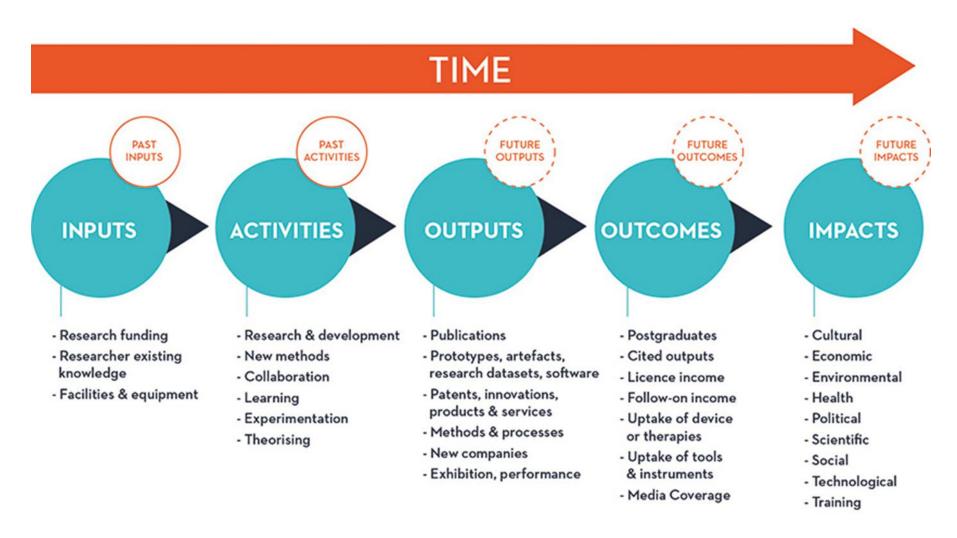
 The question is not on whether we should exert more impact on corporate, but how?

 Even for schools producing highly cited and rigorous research, need to justify legitimacy in business world

What is research impact?



Research impact as a journey



Source: UCD Dublin

How to Define Impact?



UK Research Excellence Framework 2014

- An effect on, change or benefit to the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia
 - Activity, attitude, awareness, behaviour, capacity, opportunity, performance, policy, practice, process or understanding
 - Of an audience, beneficiary, community, constituency, organisation or individuals
 - Locally, regionally, nationally or internationally
 - Reduction or prevention of harm, risk, cost or negative effects

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Some Examples of Impact



Improved health or welfare outcomes

Enhanced professional standards, ethics, guidelines or training

Improved risk management

Improved quality, accessibility or efficiency of a public service

More effective management or workplace practices Improved business performance

Public debate has been shaped or informed by research

Changes to the design or delivery of the school curriculum

Production costs have reduced

Research has enabled stakeholders to challenge conventional wisdom A social enterprise initiative has been created

Policy debate or decisions have been influenced or shaped by research Enhanced preservation, conservation or presentation of cultural heritage

Improved access to justice, employment or education

Improved forensic methods or expert systems

Organisations have adapted to changing cultural values

Jobs have been created or protected Research has informed public understanding, values, attitudes or behaviours

Improved management or conservation of natural resources

Enhanced corporate social responsibility policies

Levels of waste have reduced

The policies or activities of NGOs or charities have been informed by research

Changes to legislation or regulations

A new product has been commercialised

New forms of artistic expression or changes to creative practice

Changes in professional practice

Enhanced technical standards or protocols





How to promote impact?

Six "P" approach

- Product: High research quality and standing, while encouraging faculty members to keep "impact" in mind when developing new projects.
- People: Faculty members are the driving force of impact. Encourage faculty members to think and behave out of the box.
- Promotion: Promotion of research beyond traditional academic channels.
- Price: Provide financial support to individual projects with high impact potential.
- Place: Research outputs should be relevant to have a positive influence on individual behavior, business practices, and public policy.
- Process: Create a conducive environment so that faculty members will build their own research and dissemination plans to create impact.

Selected Measures taken at CUHK Business School: Build Infrastructure



- Provide incentives for generating impact, e.g. funding for developing proposal for large research grants
- Encourage interdisciplinary research, e.g. organize inter-departmental research workshops every semester
- Encourage impact through providing internal grants to existing research centres and research seed funding to existing new research centres
- Set up new research centres external arms to promote research of relevance to industry

Selected Measures taken at CUHK Business School: Dissemination of research knowledge



- Translate academic research into layman stories for dissemination to broader audience via above- and below-the-line media
- Promote academic research to international media for global coverage, e.g. CNBC, BBC, Bloomberg, Financial Times, Forbes, Nikkei Asian Review, Reuters, The Telegraph, The Times, The Times of India, Yahoo!, etc.



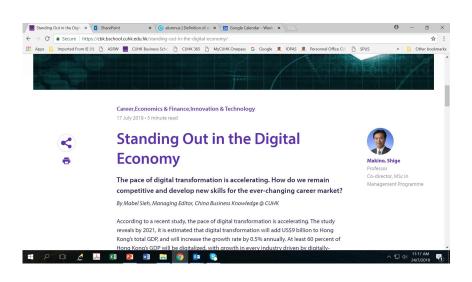


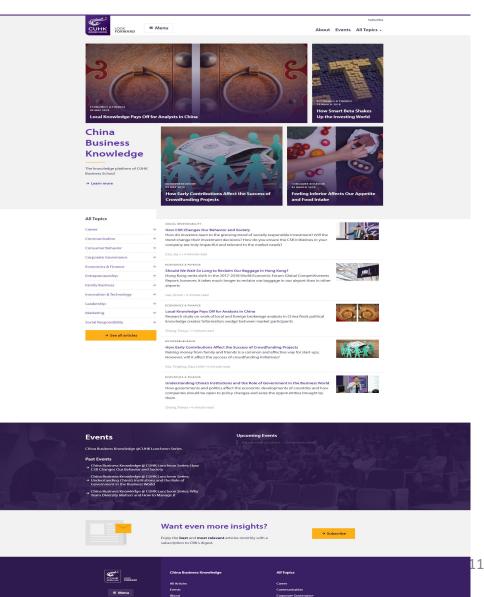


Selected Measures taken at CUHK Business School: Dissemination of research knowledge



 Develop China Business Knowledge (CBK), a self-initiated and managed knowledge platform of CUHK Business School which aims to make accessible our top-notch research, insights and commentaries to the academic, business and student communities, as well as the general public









- Academics are driven by their conferences and academic journals and their need to publish
- Academic research are based more on scientific rigor, while corporate research are more pragmatic
- Corporate issues are complex and need to be approached from interdisciplinary perspectives
- Academics are not aware of the problems and constraints of industry.





- Corporate projects
 - Conducted by UG/master students
 - Supervised by faculty
 - Compensate faculty through teaching load or small grants
 - Business solutions for companies





- Establish Industry-Sponsored PhD fellowship
 - Research-track PhD besides academic-track
 - Companies can provide/supplement student stipends
 - PhD students work on research ideas selected by the sponsoring companies, ensuring the relevancy of the research paper
 - Interests of PhD students aligned with the industry they receive additional stipends and the research papers they work on give them advantages in getting industry jobs
 - Supply of PhD students more than faculty
 - Professors are involved, but do not use their time directly, and can be more acquainted with industry needs over time





- Establish Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) programmes
 - DBA is a doctoral programme for senior business executives to pursue practice-driven research, through conducting applied and field research.
 - To build a network of senior executives who have more appreciation of the research orientation of the business school.
 - To allow academic-oriented faculty to be aware of the business problems that senior executives are facing and provide guidance to them in applying theories to solve them.
 - Faculty can gain access to proprietary data or industry data through the supervision of DBA thesis.



THANK YOU