

06.2.2026

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Title

Redefining university roles in regional economies : a case study of university?industry relations and academic organization in nanotechnology

Publication year

2011

Source/Footnote

In: Higher education. - 61 (2011) 2, S. 193 - 208

Inventory number

29479

Keywords

Hochschule und Wirtschaft ; Hochschule und Region ; Forschung : allgemein ; Wissenschaft : Physik

Abstract

The emerging field of nanotechnology has created a new frontier for the convergence of university and industrial research. In the United States, major federal investments provided a massive boom for this field over the decade. This paper reports on a case study of how the University at Albany came to establish the first college of nanotechnology in the US, as part of a larger R&D complex oriented towards building a regional nanoelectronics cluster. The case points to the role of entrepreneurs in mobilizing ideas and resources to advance novel organizational forms. This study demonstrates how a mode of technology transfer based on research facilities was deliberately used to build a nanotechnology complex at Albany, highlighting the enabling role of state S&T policies in supporting university engagements in regional economic development. (HRK / Abstract übernommen) Sa, Creso, E-Mail: c.sa@utoronto.ca