The advancement of science and technology has long been identified as the driving force behind economic growth and social welfare in knowledge intensive societies. While the responsibility for the creation and dissemination of new knowledge typically lies with leading research institutions, such as universities, the translation of this knowledge into economic value is typically performed outside of universities. As a consequence, society’s main creators of valuable knowledge cannot reap the accruing economic rent. Moreover, the transfer of knowledge and technology into society must overcome the frequently encountered frictions between its creators and its users.

For the self-understanding of the university according to Humboldt a skeptical attitude towards any profit motive is comprehensible. However, since universities increasingly depend on additional funds for new and expensive research, there is an increasing interest in the so-called “entrepreneurial university.” The reference to the “entrepreneurial university” is meant to emphasize a specific, more focused, economic understanding of the university as a firm or enterprise. It is important to stress, however, that this view of the university does not automatically imply a general acceptance of the capitalization of knowledge. More important is the notion of the university as an economic institution designed specifically for the creation and delivery of economic value. With the creation of a value chain within the transfer process, the university is confronted with new challenges within the institution itself as well as in its cooperation with the economy.

Academic entrepreneurship confronts the university with a new incentive system and perhaps also a new type of researcher. Moreover, if the university itself becomes entrepreneurial, it is
not forced to finance itself exclusively from funds or tuition, but it can also act as a market participant equipped with the competence to produce innovative spin offs or directly market its research. Thereby, the university would even assume the role of a public-private entrepreneur acting as an innovation stimulus within a regional ecosystem.

The purpose of this topic is to bring together international theoretical and empirical research approaches dealing with academic entrepreneurship, the organizational design of and the transition to the entrepreneurial university, and the impact of these developments on the structure and development of the (regional) ecosystem.

All submissions will receive a double-blind round of review. The papers accepted and presented at the conference within the Entrepreneurship SIG will be published online with ISBN in the conference proceeding.

Important information:
Themes include, but are not limited to
- Entrepreneurial University
- Entrepreneurial Ecosystem
- Entrepreneurial Support
- Knowledge and Technology Transfer
- Incubator
- Academic Spin-off
- Entrepreneurial public policy and regional development
- Entrepreneurial Triple Helix

Deadlines:
- Submission of papers: 13 January 2015 (2:00 pm GMT +1)
- Notification of acceptance: as of 17 March 2015
- Early bird/authors registration: 19 April 2015

Be involved and informed
- Further information about the EURAM 2015 conference: www.euram2015.org
- Follow us on LinkedIn Entrepreneurship SIG group:
  http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Entrepreneurship-SIG-EURAM-4192326

Proponents:
Karim Messeghem, University of Montpellier, France: karim.messeghem@univ-montp1.fr
Matthias Raith, Otto-von-Guericke University, Magdeburg, Germany: raith@ovgu.de