



**University of
Leicester**

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

Universities and Regional Innovation Systems Academic Typologies and Topologies

**CMI Interdisciplinary Workshop on Regional Innovation
9th & 10th June 2006**

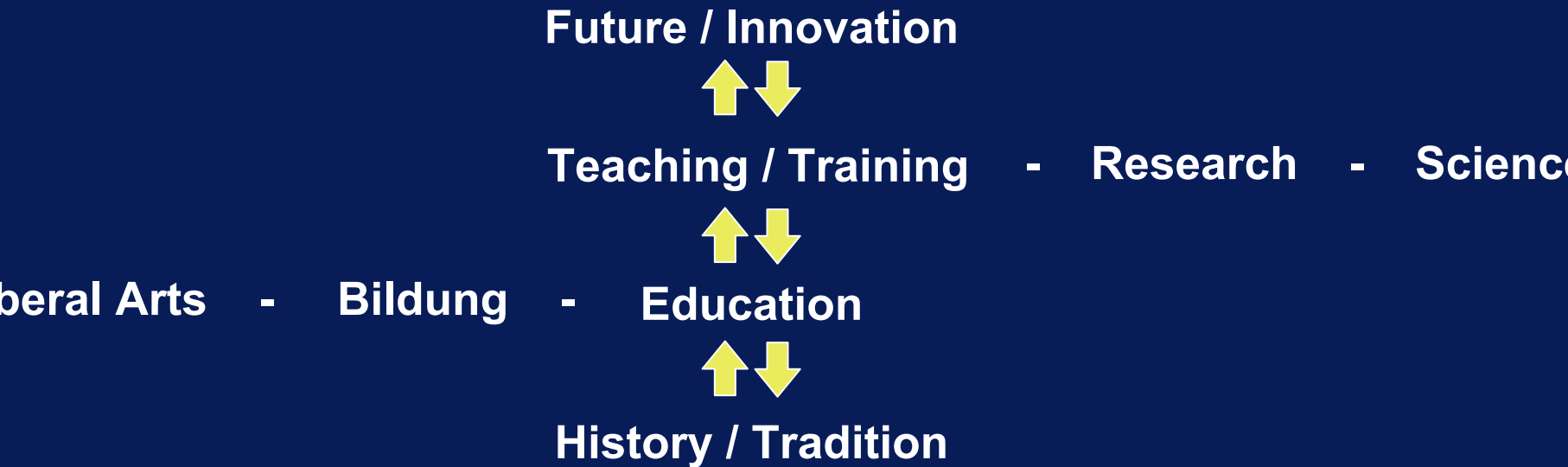
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Presentation Outline

- Universities and Society
- The Knowledge-Based Economy and Academia
- Innovation Systems and Universities
- Academic Typology
- Regional Topologies
- Typologies and Topologies



Universities and Society



- The changing/evolving nature of academia
- (Re)Legitimizing function of universities



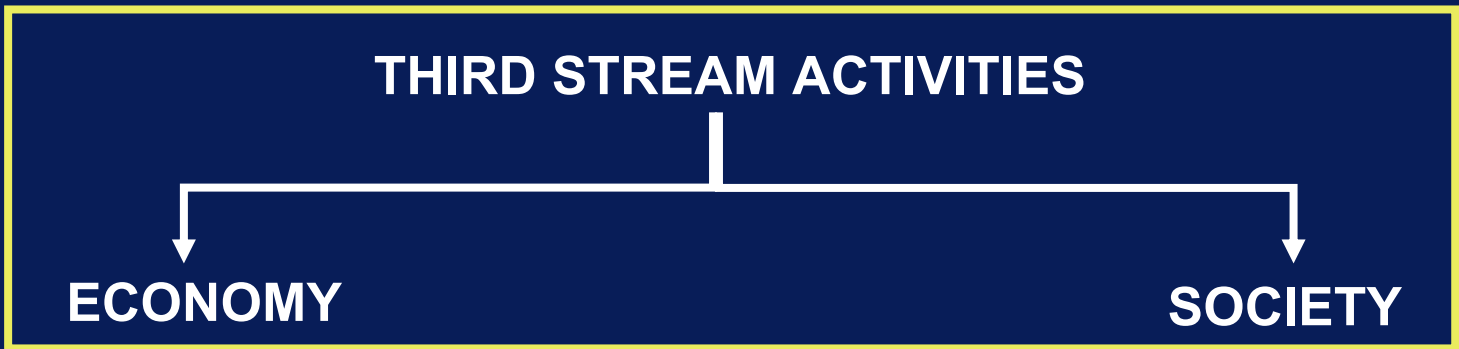
The Knowledge-Based Economy and Academia

- Buzzword of the 1990s 'Knowledge-Based Economy' and of the 2000s 'Entrepreneurial Universities'
- Universities as engines of the knowledge-based economy
- Universities both informing and the focus of policy

INSTITUTION \ FUNCTION	SCIENTIFIC	ECONOMIC
PUBLIC	ENTREPRENEURIAL UNIVERSITY	
PRIVATE		

Universities and the Third Mission

- Transformation of the Academy
- Universities and Third Stream Activities



- Core & Competitive Third Stream Funding - HEFCE

Innovation Systems and Universities

- Understanding 'Innovation Systems'

NATIONAL INNOVATION SYSTEMS
REGIONAL INNOVATION SYSTEMS

- Universities in context of 'Innovation Systems'
- Theory and practice of institutional engagement
- Regionalisation of academia



Academic Typologies

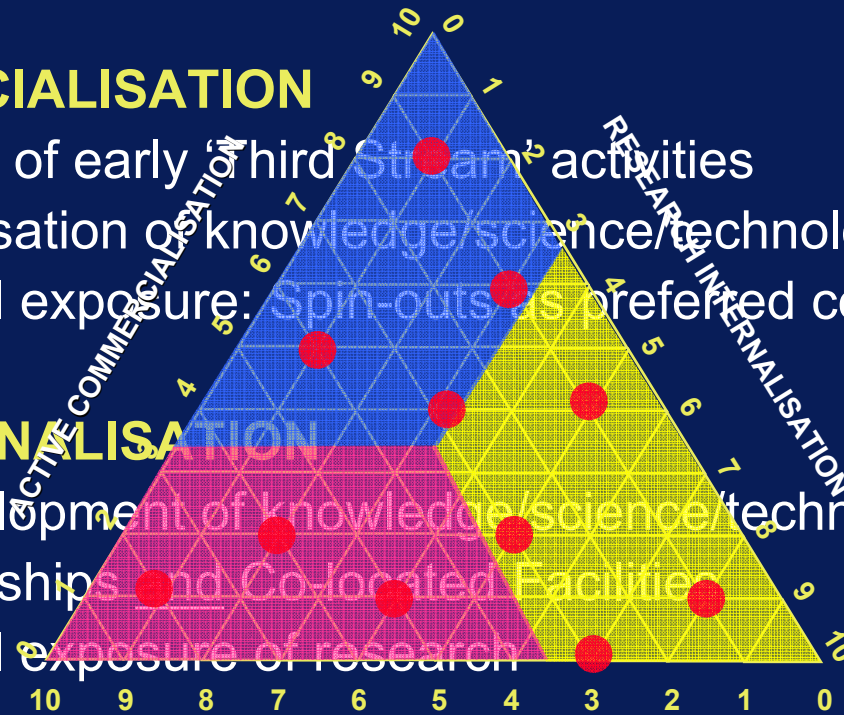
Understanding entrepreneurial universities

ACTIVE COMMERCIALISATION

- Primary outcome of early 'third stream' activities
- The commercialisation of knowledge/science/technology
- Early commercial exposure: Spin-outs as preferred commercial vehicle

RESEARCH INTERNALISATION

- Institutional development of knowledge/science/technology
- Strategic Partnerships and Co-located Facilities
- Later commercial exposure of research



SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY INNOVATORS (CAPITALIST & COLLABORATIVE)

- Earliest opportunity for capital gains – Patents & Licensing
- Long term collaborative relationships



Regional Topologies

Topology and topography

Types of Universities in UK regions

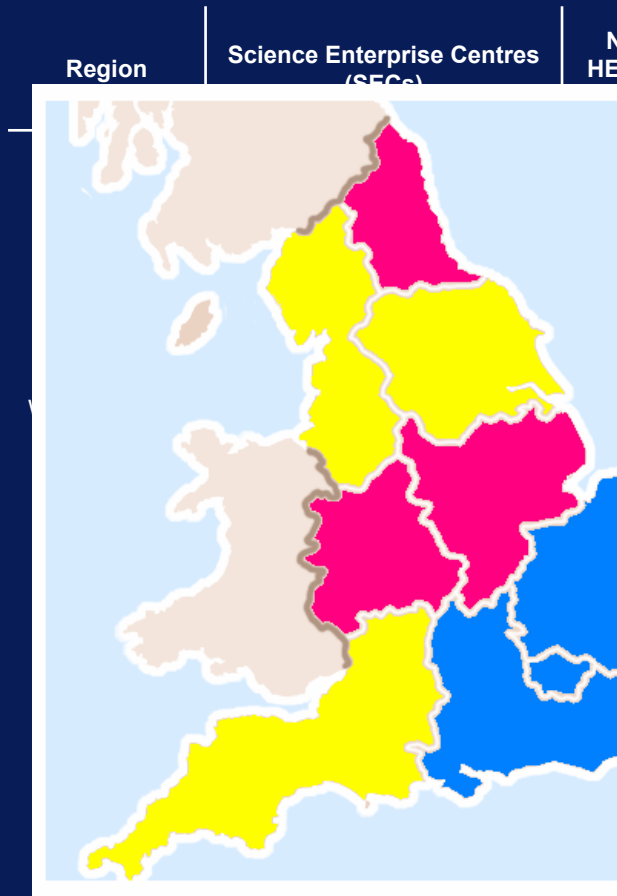
- Generative
- Developmental
- Passive

Regional 'connectedness'

- Science Enterprise Centres (SECs)

Institutional Priorities

Universities as supra-spatial



Regional Higher Education Sector
As defined from HEFRO (2006)



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Typologies and/or Topologies?

- Variation in commercial priorities of entrepreneurial universities
- Highlight the complexity and diversity of universities within regional innovation systems
- Transformation of universities – quasi-public institutions
- Universities achieving institutional and driving regional development through third stream activities
- The complex public and private roles of universities as they fulfil often mutually contradictory functions of accumulation and legitimisation

