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**ACADEMIC ENTREPRENEURSHIP AWARENESS WORKSHOP**

Proposed by: Working Group on Academic Entrepreneurship, University of Balamand  
Organized by: Développement de l’entrepreneuriat étudiant au Liban Project, Agence universitaire de la Francophonie

DATE: Friday 11 May, 2018  
PLACE: University of Balamand

**1. AIMS**

The workshop aims to identify the role of universities within an entrepreneurial ecosystem. Along with teaching and research, the “third mission” of universities impacts the socio-economic environment. The rigid structures of many universities, as well as the specificities of particular contexts can make it difficult to identify some universal “best practices”. A triple helix perspective, made up of government, industry and academia nurtures an entrepreneurial dynamic. More research is needed to explore the complex dynamics. In order to support entrepreneurship, many universities have built appropriate structures, such as technology transfer offices (TTOs), science parks and incubators, and created internal supportive rules and procedures. Formal and informal channels blend in shaping an innovation ecosystem. Academic engagement represents an important way in which knowledge is transferred into the ecosystem. The contribution of the first two missions of universities to the dynamic of the triple helix is well-documented; however, the role of academic entrepreneurship within universities and consequently to the dynamic of the triple helix is neither well-defined nor well-understood.

**2. TARGET AUDIENCE**

Faculty members of Lebanese Universities, members of the PEPITE Lebanon project

**3. OBJECTIVE**

The Academic Entrepreneurship Awareness Workshop aims to inform and provide researchers, universities and policy makers with a more accurate picture on academic entrepreneurial activities and constraints within the PEPITE Lebanon project.

This workshop aims to answer the following questions:

* What does it mean to be an Academic Entrepreneur?
* How can we further improve our understanding of Academic Entrepreneurship vs Professor’s Privilege?
* What are the defining characteristics of an Entrepreneurial University? Are there already Entrepreneurial Universities from which lessons can be learnt? From an organizational standpoint, which organizational structures and practices does the rise of academic entrepreneurship require?
* What are the formal and informal channels for knowledge transfer?
* How can universities and faculties nurture the entrepreneurial ecosystem?

4. **CONFERENCE AGENDA**

9:30-10:00 Registration and Welcoming Coffee

10:00-10:10 Welcoming Address by AUF – BMO Director, Dr. Herve Sabourin

10:10-10:20 Introduction, UOB

10:20-11:20 Foundations of academic entrepreneurship

11:20-11:40 Coffee Break

11:40-12:20 Success Story

12:20-13:30 The role of universities and faculty members in nurturing entrepreneurship education

13:30-15:00 Lunch Break

15:00-16:00 Academic Entrepreneurship vs Professor’s Privilege

16:00-16:30 Discussion

**5. TOPICS**

**Foundations of academic entrepreneurship**

Guest: Ursula El Hage

This session provides an introduction into the topic of academic entrepreneurship. It describes how ideas are translated into marketable business opportunities, and provides ways to connect theory and practice.

**Success Story** Guest: Solène Le François, Co-Founder at MyAftersCool

**The role of universities and faculty members in nurturing entrepreneurship education**

Guest: Patrick Sinz

A session aiming at defining a set of recommendations on faculty members’ contribution to academic entrepreneurship

**Academic Entrepreneurship vs Professor’s Privilege**

Guest: Thomas Astebro

This session explores both the Bayh-Dole intellectual property regime and the Professor’s Privilege regime. This sessions answers the question of how can we further improve our understanding of BDA vs PP?