

**Final Call for Papers:  
Session 80 on the  
XVIth World Economic History Congress, Stellenbosch, 9-13 July, 2012  
*Innovation in the Modern Economy: Indicators and Analysis***

Innovation is a major factor in economic growth and for the improvement of living standards. However, our knowledge about innovation in more precise terms, their characteristics and change over time, is still not very developed. For example, Schumpeter's presumption that innovations emerge as clusters in a periodical pattern is still not settled, and neither is the question whether innovations typically originate in small firms or in larger corporate organisations. One reason for the underdevelopment of knowledge in this field is the lack of data on innovation, in particular time series that would make possible comparative analyses of innovation and economic growth. The aim of this session is to gather papers and scholars dedicated to the assessment and analysis of innovation in the modern economy. Much of the research on innovation is focusing contemporary or very recent times and the present session is connected with this research. However, both for theoretical and historical reasons it is important to have a longer time perspective and the session will also address innovation in preceding centuries. Issues dealt with may range from methodological problems in the search for indicators on innovation to empirical analyses of the impact of innovation over time and space. Moreover, papers dealing with related indicators such as patents and R&D, as well as their analysis, are welcome. There is an emerging research in the construction of databases of innovations which will be reported.

Since we are interested in extending the network on related research, we have decided to delay the previously announced deadline for consideration of high quality contributions. Submit a draft paper or an abstract of 300-1000 words no later than January 31, 2012. Reply will come February 15.

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