

The Economics of Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs)

The CEMI survey of Technology Transfer Offices

University Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) are bridge institutions between academic scientists and industry. Thus, they play a key role in the translation of research results into economic outcomes.

In the summer of 2008, CEMI conducted a **survey of TTOs** from universities located in **Western European countries**, whose researchers published more than 200 scientific articles in the period 2004-2006.

Out of the target population of 355 universities we obtained 211 responses, i.e. a **response rate of 59.4%**. The sample is broadly **representative** of the target population in terms of size and geography.

In terms of analysis, we are particularly interested in the following issues:

- **Comparisons** between Europe and the US
- **Impact** of national laws and policies on technology transfer (e.g. professor's privilege)
- **Determinants** of the productivity of TTOs; and in particular the effect of objectives, modes of organisation and staffing composition on TTO performance

--> [Download the report](#) [pdf, 120 Ko]

Researchers



Annamaria CONTI

Annamaria Conti is writing a thesis on university-industry technology transfer. She is currently studying the different forms of organization of European TTOs and the efficient modes of negotiation of university-industry collaborations. She spent the academic year 2007/2008 at the Georgia Institute of Technology under the supervision of Prof. Marie Thursby and Prof. Jerry Thursby.



Patrick GAULE

Patrick Gaulé is writing a thesis on the economics of science and access to knowledge. He has written papers on patent pooling, humanitarian licensing (using university licensing contracts to improve access to medicines in developing countries) and open access to the scientific literature. From 2003 to 2007 he was a consultant for the World Health Organization.