

# CENTRE FOR TRANSFORMATIVE INNOVATION

SWINBURNE

SWINBURNE  
UNIVERSITY OF  
TECHNOLOGY

The first choice for the analysis of industry and business performance

## Overview

The Centre for Transformative Innovation at Swinburne University of Technology is part of a worldwide movement to improve societies' understanding of how ideas and inventions enhance productivity.

As the largest interdisciplinary academic research body on innovation in Australia, the Centre for Transformative Innovation is uniquely placed to provide robust and objective evidence needed to guide public and enterprise policy through change.

The Centre is known for the high calibre of its researchers, analysts, data scientists and PhD candidates; the depth and quality of its empirical analysis; its evidence-based public policy recommendations; and its outstanding infrastructure for large-scale data analytics.

We specialise in analysing the performance of business and industries. We test why businesses do or do not choose to innovate. What are the repercussions of innovating? How can prudent government and corporate policy be crafted to optimise the type and level of innovation?

The Centre regularly undertakes applied economic, social, network, management research on a contract basis.

## Data Science

The Centre specialises in the creation, manipulation and use of unique micro datasets. The Centre has expertise in harmonised patent and trade mark data sets; algorithms for large and interconnected data sets; R&D databases; firm activity and scientific publication databases and data insights by trend identification.



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# RESEARCH THEMES

The Centre for Transformative Innovation tests why business do or do not innovate and what are the repercussions of innovation. Our research is organised under the following themes.

## ECONOMICS OF INNOVATION

Led by **Professor Beth Webster**, the economics of innovation team investigates how businesses behave and why or why not they choose to innovate. The group focus on complex analysis within and across national innovation systems (including patents and trade marks systems) and how they are linked to economic performance using large panel business databases. The group also focuses on the economic analyses of optimal policy settings in the area of government support for business; the research sector; and collaboration between sectors.

Current research projects in this research program include:

- the effects of innovation, R&D, and government programs on firm performance
- the size of knowledge spill-overs in the Australian economy
- the link between innovation and trade
- the efficacy of the international patent system
- the building of an internationally linked trade mark database

## NETWORKED INNOVATION

**Professor Dean Lusher** leads the team that is currently working in partnership with various organisations and industry bodies – including the Boeing Company, CSIRO and Chemistry Australia – to understand the formal and informal social interactions between people and organisations that underpin innovation. Innovation is no longer the property of stand-alone corporate or government R&D laboratories. Rather, it is the property of networks, where innovation occurs at the interstices of organisations, large and small, public and private.

Current research projects in this research program include:

- the role of networks in the commercialisation of public research
- intra-organisational networks in corporate R&D
- inter-organisational networks among firms in the biotechnology industry
- effective network governance in the health sector

### Contact the Centre

There are many ways to engage with us. If your organisation is dealing with a complex problem, then get in touch to discuss how we can work together to provide solutions.

**Call us:** +61 3 9214 4620  
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