



The knowledge society

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Overview

- My research
 - Topic: knowledge management (KM) competence
 - Research question: How is KM competence developed at graduate KM programs?
- Literature review
 - **Knowledge society**
 - Knowledge management
 - Competence

Note: References available at <http://asaito.editme.com/Bibliography>



The knowledge society

- Major patterns of economic development (Toffler 1980; Drucker 1993)
 - Agricultural age
 - Industrial age
 - Post-industrial age
 - *(information/ digital/ network/ post-capitalist/ knowledge) age*
- The knowledge society
 - What is it?
 - Why is it different?



Emerging knowledge economy

- Knowledge society or knowledge economy?
 - Society includes economy, polity, culture, etc. (Ungar 2003; Drucker 1969)
- Origins of the knowledge economy (Stehr 2002; Foss 2005)
 - Accelerating pace of innovation (Schumpeter 1939)
 - *Increasing importance of knowledge and knowledge creation*
 - Economic globalization (Thurow 1996)
 - *Deregulation leading to global trade, finance, labor, research*
 - Scientific and technological development (Bell 1973)
 - *Technology fuels innovation which fuels technology*



What is the knowledge economy?

- Ever increasing intensity of knowledge
(Stehr 2002; Drucker 1993; Bell 1973; Machlup 1962)
 - Traditional, high tech and knowledge industries
 - Growth of networked configurations
 - Emergence of innovation systems
- Rise of knowledge work/ the knowledge worker
(Stehr 2002; Drucker 1993; Castells 2000; Reich 1991)
 - Greater autonomy for knowledge workers
 - Changing organizational structures
 - Increasing mobility of the workforce



What are the differences?

- New work relations (Newell et al. 2002; Alvesson 2004)
 - Knowledge work: autonomy, professionalism
 - Modular and networked structures, mobile workforce
- New organizational configurations
(Acs et al. 2002; Cooke 2002)
 - Outsourcing, operating partners, knowledge alliances
 - Innovation systems (government, industry, academy)
- New economic logic (Teece 2000; Thurow 1996; Romer 2003)
 - Logic of increasing returns
 - Dissemination vs. appropriation of knowledge



Sketching the knowledge society

- Exponential growth of knowledge
 - The universal 'ignorant expert' (Ungar 2003)
 - Emergence of collective intelligence (Levy 1997)
- Changing institutions
 - 'Open' economic models (IP, K commons) (Lessig 2001)
 - Distributed governance and politics
- New ways to work, learn and live
 - Less market and hierarchy, more community
 - Less work, more education and leisure (Stehr 2002)



What is in it for me?

- Changing nature of learning
 - Augmented learning: contextualization and judgment
 - More experience and tacit knowledge
 - Not only learning, but also knowledge creation
- Networking for collaboration
 - Acquire K: scanning, filtering, summarizing
 - Create K: testing, refining, improving
 - Doing it together, collectively
- Universal values as converging factor