

Research on Social Networks and Entrepreneurship Rewarded with 100,000 Euros

The 2018 Global Award for Entrepreneurship Research goes to Professor Olav Sorenson, Yale School of Management. Sorenson is awarded for showing how entrepreneurial activity and innovation are strongly embedded in socially and spatially bounded relationships. The Global Award is the foremost international award in entrepreneurship research with a prize sum of € 100,000.

By combining learnings from sociology, economic geography, and economics, Olav Sorenson has provided new insights that challenge established views on the microeconomic foundations of spatial formations, knowledge diffusion, and interactions among economic agents.

Olav Sorenson's most prominent contributions in entrepreneurship and innovation, based on meticulous data analyses, can be categorized into three fields: 1) the geography of entrepreneurship, 2) social capital and entrepreneurship, and 3) the evolution of learning and innovation. His contributions have:

- Pioneered the concept of *home field advantage* in explaining localization patterns of new and young firms.
- Paved new ways to assess and measure the problem of endogeneity in building social capital. He has designed experiments and statistical methods that deal with the endogeneity issue, emphasizing how networks evolve, as well as their origin.
- Advanced our understanding of organizational learning, scientific discovery, and technological innovation by building on the importance of interdependence among actors in the innovation process.

The Award ceremony will take place in Stockholm on May 14. For further information please visit our website, www.e-award.org.

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The **Global Award for Entrepreneurship Research** was established as the foremost global award for research on entrepreneurship. The Award honors significant contributions to theory-building on entrepreneurship and small business development. The Award consists of the statuette "The Hand of God" by the Swedish sculptor Carl Milles and a prize amount of 100 000 Euros. The Award was instituted in 1996 and re-launched under a new name in 2008.

Founder of the Award: [Swedish Entrepreneurship Forum](#). Co-founder: [The Research Institute of Industrial Economics \(IFN\)](#). Sponsor: [VINNOVA – Sweden's Innovation Agency](#). Donor: [Stockholms Köpmansklubb](#).

For more information, please visit www.e-award.org or contact [Britt-Marie Nordström](#).