

# 2017 XXXI RENT Conference, Lund, Sweden

## Pre-Conference Policy Forum

15 November 2017

Chair person: Marie Löwegren, Sten K. Johnson Centre for Entrepreneurship, Lund University

### How to make research on entrepreneurship more relevant?

#### Objectives:

*The theme of the RENT Conference 2017 is “Relevance in entrepreneurship research”. This topic is relevant not only for researchers, but is of great importance to practitioners and policy makers too. With this Policy Forum we kick off the conference with an opportunity for practitioners, policy makers and academic scholars interested in the topic to express their opinions in an interactive workshop.*

*Traditionally, entrepreneurship and small business research has been regarded as practical and as a field of research with relevance for entrepreneurs and for policy. However, as the field is becoming more and more institutionalized in the academic system entrepreneurship research has lost its focus, and today many entrepreneurship scholars feel frustrated about research’s lack of relevance. Adding to this, we know that practitioners and policy makers are searching for knowledge relevant for their decision making. Thus, in this Pre-Conference Policy Forum it is timely to discuss issues such as:*

- *What does “relevant entrepreneurship research” mean to you (practitioners, policy-makers, and researchers)?*
- *What are needed to make entrepreneurship and small business research relevant to practitioners and policy makers?*
- *How should practitioners and policy makers be involved in research?*
- *What topics need to be researched seen from the perspectives of practitioners and policy makers?*

*To the workshop we would like to invite practitioners and policy-makers as well as academic researchers for a discussion around the issue of “How to make research on entrepreneurship more relevant?”*

#### Programme:

- 15.00-15.10: **Welcome** Marie Löwegren  
Director, Sten K. Johnson Centre for Entrepreneurship
- 15.10-15.30: Hans Landström  
Professor, Sten K. Johnson Centre for Entrepreneurship  
**Title: Relevance in Entrepreneurship Research**
- 15.30-15.50 Håkan Hillefors  
Acting Head of Division, Division for Entrepreneurship Promotion and Simplification,  
Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation  
**Title: Relevance from a policy perspective**
- 15.50-16.10 Anna Stenstam

CEO CR Competence AB

**Title: A practitioners' view on relevance**

- 16.10-16.40 **Coffee Break**
- 16.40-17.30 Round-table discussion
- 17.30-18.15 Concluding remarks and next step
- 18.30- RECEPTION: XXXI RENT CONFERENCE

**Practical information:**

Conference location: Pelarsalen, Lund University Main Building

There is no registration fee, but pre-registration is mandatory. To register send an e-mail to: Maria Pihel, Sten K. Johnson Centre for Entrepreneurship, Lund University, email: [Maria.Pihel@fek.lu.se](mailto:Maria.Pihel@fek.lu.se).  
Registration deadline is Wednesday 8 November 2017.

The Policy Forum will be free of charge, and the forum will be held in English.