



Innovation, Complex Research Teams, and Problems of Integration: The Missing Link

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Our Agenda

Evaluators need to

- be involved in evaluating solutions to societal crises
- create new evaluation tools
- create new social science theory

The Societal Crisis:

The loss of competitiveness in high tech sectors

Evidence:

- Rising Above the Gathering Storm (2007) and other books by Kao (2007) and Estrin (2008)
- Negative balance of trade across the 11 high tech sectors as tracked by NSF since 2002
- The decline in middle class salaries and increasing unemployment in these occupations

The New Evaluation Tools

Jordan, Hage and Mote

- The research environment survey
- R&D and innovation logic models
- Innovation System Evaluation framework (a three level set of nine indicators)

Today we focus on three new Evaluation tools:

Check lists for studying

- different kinds of complex teams, and their problems
- transformational organizations (capable of bursts of radical innovation)
- idea innovation networks

New Contributions to Social Science Theory

Theories of

- complex research teams in the management of innovation literature
- transformational organizations for the sociology of innovation literature
- networks for network theory