

# CIMR NEWSLETTER

**September 2024**

**This newsletter celebrates  
the CIMR community's  
successes in the Summer  
term 2024.**

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## Unpack CIMR's latest activities and events

We're excited to share the latest developments in our research activities, events, and team updates over the past term at CIMR.

Looking ahead, we have a busy term lined up and invite you to stay tuned for more updates!

**Follow us**



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## Newsletter Highlights

Well done to our very own Jacqueline Winstanley and Helen Lawton Smith for being invited to give evidence to a DWP Select committee at the House of Commons on May 1st!

**Learn more on the CIMR Event section**

## Top News

New publication: Rossi, F., De Silva, M., Pavone, P., Rosli, A., and N. Yip (2024)

**Proximity and impact of university-industry collaborations. A topic detection analysis of impact reports, Technological Forecasting and Social Change, 205**

**Marion Frenz** secured funding from Birkbeck's Research Innovation Fund to conduct research on the use of GenAI in small businesses.

**Thanos Fragkandreas** was speaker at the "Workshop on the Secondary Innovation Objective", Bank of England, London, April 2024.

## Welcome onboard, Egle!



We're excited to collaborate with Egle Sadauskaite as we continue to strengthen our Alumni network and increase our impact within the innovation management field. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to her!

**Learn more on the Teams News section**

# Blogs

We are grateful to our members who have contributed interesting and thought-provoking reflections to our blog series.

**Learn more about the research and news blogs we have hosted since April 2024:**



## Research Blogs

**Industrial Policies for Technological Upgrading in Western Balkan Countries** – by Dr Fadil Sahiti; 19th April 2024

**Self-employment as a route to finding work for disabled people** – by Helen Lawton Smith, 2nd May 2024

**New Virtual Special Issue: Innovation Intermediaries and Emerging Digital Technologies** – by Federica Rossi; 7th May 2024

**Rethink University Partnerships: Here's What Really Drives (Different Type of) Impact in University-Industry Partnerships** – by Federica Rossi; 18th May 2024

**The role of Local Authorities in cultural knowledge exchange** – by Federica Rossi; 27th July 2024

## News Blogs

**Skills for Innovation Workshop: A CIMR and City-REDI Event** – 23rd April 2024

**Emerging Technologies for Effective Teaching, Assessment and Research: Joint Exploratory Workshop with University of Westminster** – 17th May 2024

**The book launch: Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in Cities and Regions – The Oxford University Event, Kellogg College, University of Oxford, May 17 2024** – 27th May 2024



**Presentation of the Palgrave Handbook of Social Sustainability in Business Education to the select diplomats at the UN, New York, May 31 2024** – 27th June 2024

## Other News Blogs

**Attracting entrepreneurial scientists – should the UK be more like the US?**  
– by Prof. Peter Jelfs, Dr Angus Holford, Tommaso Sartori; 13th June 2024

## New Research Activities

Our members have been busy producing ground-breaking research papers, book chapters and books.

**Discover the research work released during this Summer term:**



## New Publications

Koliousis, I., Al-Surmi, A. and Bashiri, M., 2024. **Artificial intelligence and policy making; can small municipalities enable digital transformation?** International Journal of Production Economics, p.109324.

Rossi, F., De Silva, M., Pavone, P., Rosli, A., and N. Yip (2024) **Proximity and impact of university-industry collaborations. A topic detection analysis of impact**

**reports**, *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 205

Colovic, A., Caloffi, A., Rossi, F., Paladini, S. and M. Bagherzadeh (editors) **Innovation intermediaries and emerging digital technologies**, Technovation, 2024, 133.

De Silva, M., Paunov, C., Planes-Satorra, S. and Peñalosa, P. (2023) **Unlocking co-creation for green innovation: 10 international case studies**. OECD. ISSN 23074957

Fragkandreas, T. (2025) **Case study research on innovation systems: paradox, dialectical analysis, and resolution**, *Research Policy* (in press).

## Book Chapters

Butkevičienė, J and Lawton Smith, H (2024) University involvement in supporting entrepreneurship of people with disabilities Chapter 27 in A. Šilenskytė and S.M.Toh (eds) *The Palgrave Handbook of Social Sustainability in Business Education* Basingstoke:Palgrave

## Events & Grants

CIMR places considerable emphasis on the organisation of events, including our award-winning CIMR Debates in Public Policy series. Our members also attend a variety of conferences and panels as guest speakers.

**Learn more about this term events:**



## Presentations

### Federica Rossi

Speaker at '*Emerging business models and competence development of digital innovation intermediaries*', Citi-Redi – Birkbeck Skills for Innovation workshop, 24 April 2024

Speaker at '*Innovation intermediaries and the digital transition: from service*

*providers to ecosystem coordinators*', Invited talk, ISCCI Symposium on Innovation, 29th April 2024

Speaker at '*KEF and Small Specialists: Key findings and reflections*', Invited talk NCACE Evidence Café 13: Knowledge Exchange and Small Specialist Arts, 9 May 2024

Speaker at *'Approaches to international collaboration in clinical research: a study of Italian research hospitals'*,  
Invited Seminar, Università di Torino, 11th June 2024

### **Muthu De Silva**

Keynote speaker at the Innovation Spring Conference 2024, organized by the Research Network on Innovation.  
The theme of the conference was "Systemic Innovations: Industry, Society, Environment." Title of the speech – "Co-creation and green innovation"; 21 March 2024, Nancy (France).

Speaker of the SIIB 2024: *'Early Career Researchers Conference in Strategy, Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and International Business'*. The conference is jointly organised by the University of Manchester, University of Nottingham, De Montfort University, British Academy of Management, and BAM Entrepreneurship Special Interest Group; 10th of April 2024.

Speaker of the 60th Anniversary Event of the University of Bradford School of Management, Title of the speech – "How co-creation offers opportunities to businesses to simultaneously generate business, environmental, and social value" University of Bradford, 17 April 2024.

### **Grazia Ietto-Gillies**

Speaker at Festival dell'Economia, 2024,

Member of the panel discussing: *'Federico Caffè, l'economista etico che mirava al bene comune'*. Chaired by Roberto Da Rin, Journalist, Il Sole 24 Ore; 26 May 2024

### **Thanos Fragkandreas**

Speaker at the "Workshop on the Secondary Innovation Objective", Bank of England, London, April 2024.

Speaker at the Joint Exploratory Workshop: *'Emerging Technologies for Effective Teaching, Assessment, and Research'*, Title of the presentation: *'Paradoxical Dialogues and AI Bias in Research-Based Teaching.'* University of Westminster, London, June 2025.

### **Helen Lawton Smith**

Potter, J and Lawton Smith H (2024) *'Applying the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Concept to Regional Entrepreneurship Policy Analysis – A Critique'*, Workshop on Entrepreneurial Ecosystems book launch, Oxford University Event, Kellogg College, Oxford, May 17 2024

Lawton Smith, H, O'Gorman, W and Hayes, R. (2024). *'Graduates' contribution to the growth and development of high-tech, knowledge-driven, high growth enterprises: the case of Waterford in Ireland'*. City-REDI-CIMR joint workshop, April 23 2024

# CIMR Debates in Public Policy and joint workshops

24th April 2024, 10:00 — 15:30

## **“Skills for Innovation Workshop“ (Joint Workshop with City-REDI, University of Birmingham, and the IRC)**

[Link to blog](#)



14th May 2024, 13:00 - 14:30

## **“Sustainable Innovation and Digitalisation Workshop”**

Chair: Dr. David Bartlett (Kogod School of Business)

- Saverio Romeo (Birkbeck, University of London) “Digital Technologies and Sustainability: A Challenging Relationship”
- Muthu de Silva (Birkbeck, University of London) and Brett Anitra Gilbert (Kogod Business School) “Gone, but not forgotten: emigrants and the co-creation of sustainable social innovations for origin countries”

- Taha Anis, Sanna Kumpulainen & Johanna Hautala (University of Vaasa) “Perceived sustainability in remote knowledge working with advanced information technologies”
- Final discussion (30 mins) – Panel: Helen Lawton Smith, Jouni Juntunen, Tomasz Mroczkowski, Muthu de Silva, Federica Rossi

[Link to YouTube Video:](#)



7th June 2024, 10:00 – 15:30,

## **“Emerging Technologies for Effective Teaching, Assessment and Research” (Joint Exploratory Workshop with with Westminster CETI, SGW, University of Westminster, Innogen and the University of Edinburgh.)**

[Link to blog](#)





12th June 2024, 13:00–14:00

**“Importance of interdisciplinary research for knowledge exchange in universities: An organizational perspective” (CIMR Debate in Public Policy)**

Presenters: Marianna Marra (University of Sussex) and Abhijit Sengupta (University of Surrey)

Discussant: Daniele Rotolo (University of Sussex)

Chair: Federica Rossi

[Link to blog](#)

[Link to YouTube video](#)



19th June 2024, 13:00 – 14:00

**Demand side public policy for innovation (CIMR Debate in Public Policy)**

Chair: Dr. Marion Frenz, Birkbeck CIMR

Speaker: Dr. Fabrizio Tuzi – senior researcher at Institute on Regional Studies – Italian National Research Council

Discussants: Prof. Daniele Archibugi, Birkbeck, CIMR; Prof. Helen Lawton Smith, Birkbeck, CIMR

[Link to blog](#)

## Research Grants

**Marion Frenz** secured funding from Birkbeck’s Research Innovation Fund to conduct research on the use of GenAI in small businesses. She is collaborating on the project with Saverio Romeo from CIMR, and Professors Frederic Marimon and Marta Mas Machuca from our partner institution, Universitat Internacional de Catalunya (UIC) Barcelona. The Research Innovation Fund is supported by the generosity of Birkbeck alumni and friends.

**Nicola Searle** was awarded a grant from the Innovation Research Caucus on: ‘*Trusted Research & Innovation: An Investigation of Knowledge Leakage*’ <https://ircaucus.ac.uk/announcing-winners-of-the-irc-open-call/>

**Ron Smith** was awarded a research grant for his project titled ‘*Improving Measurement of Public Service Productivity*’. The project is funded by The Economic Statistics Centre of Excellence.

**Muthu De Silva** was awarded a research grant for her project titled ‘*Mobility of staff between universities and businesses*’ The project is funded by The National Centre for Universities and Business



# New CIMR Members

## Egle Sadauskaite



Eglė Sadauskaitė is an accomplished professional specializing in innovation within the financial services sector.

She holds an MSc in Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship from Birkbeck, University of London, where she graduated with distinction. Her thesis, which explored co-creation for sustainability in technology, was highly commended. Eglė is also actively involved in supporting early careers, co-founding the Barclays Innovation Bootcamp and the Barclays Creative Horizons program. Her academic credentials are further bolstered by executive education in fintech from Saïd Business School, University of Oxford.

Outside her professional pursuits, Eglė is passionate about video games and closely follows industry developments.

# ABOUT CIMR

The Birkbeck Centre for Innovation Management (CIMR) is a college-wide research centre of Birkbeck, University of London.

Launched in 2008, it undertakes international research focusing on multi-disciplinary academic, industrial and commercial themes relating to the management of innovation. It is a hub for enabling collaborations, teaching and sharing of research, ideas and practice to create impact and facilitate more effective management, commercialisation of innovation and the development of effective policy.

Our researchers regularly publish in top quality journals, present at international conferences and undertake consultancy for national and international policy-making bodies and research for influential think tanks.

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