A Research Value Responsiveness Index for Government Collaborator Involvement in University-Industry Partnerships

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Abstract

Collaboration between University and Industry for advanced technology is increasing over time. On a number of instances Government collaborators will also become involved in these partnerships. When this occurs it is interesting to assess how the value that Government actors introduce is influenced by the scale at which they engage. The current inquiry advances a Research Value Responsiveness Index to measure magnitude of (Government collaborator induced) change in research value across different scales of engagement (in University-Industry partnerships). This index can be loosely compared to the economic concept of price elasticity of demand, which represents the percentage change in quantity demanded of a given commodity divided by the percentage change in its price. Analogously, the Research Value Responsiveness Index considers the ratio of percentage change in research value (of research produced by University-Industry-Government partnerships) to percentage change in scale of Government collaborator engagement across the spectrum of University and Industry proximities. Identifying scales at which research value exhibits relatively greater elasticity or responsiveness to Government collaborator engagement is informative for research valuation and policy purposes.