

**SHIRI M. BREZNITZ**

ROZ AND RALPH HALBERT PROFESSOR OF INNOVATION  
THE MUNK SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

1 Devonshire Place, 368S  
Toronto, Ontario, M5S 3K7 Canada

416-946-5225  
[shiri.breznitz@utoronto.ca](mailto:shiri.breznitz@utoronto.ca)

**EDUCATION**

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**UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, UK**

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY  
PHD, 2008

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, LOWELL**

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT  
MASTER OF ARTS, 2000

**HEBREW UNIVERSITY, ISRAEL**

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
BACHELOR OF ARTS, 1996

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

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**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, TORONTO, CANADA**

MUNK SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS  
THE RALPH AND ROZ HALBERT PROFESSOR OF INNOVATION (JULY 2023 – PRESENT)  
PROFESSOR (JULY 2022-PRESENT)  
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH (JULY 2022 – PRESENT)  
DIRECTOR OF THE MASTER IN GLOBAL AFFAIRS PROGRAM (JULY 2020-JUNE 2022)  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (JULY 2016 – JUNE – 2022)  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR (JULY 2013 – JUNE 2016)

**GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, ATLANTA, GA**

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY  
Assistant Professor (January 2009 – June 2013)

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, CHAPEL HILL, NC**

**Department of Public Policy**  
Post Doctorate Fellow (August 2008 – December 2008)

**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA, ATHENS, GA**

**Institute of Higher Education**  
Post Doctorate Fellow (October 2007 – July 2008)

**VISITING POSITIONS**

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**LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, LONDON, UK**

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT  
VISITING SENIOR FELLOW (FEBRUARY 2022 - PRESENT)

**POLITECNICO DI MILANO, MILAN, ITALY**

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

VISITING PROFESSOR (FEBRUARY- MARCH, 2019)

**UNIVERSITY OF STAVANGER**, STAVANGER, NORWAY  
BUSINESS SCHOOL  
VISITING PROFESSOR (MARCH 2019)

**COLLEGIO CARLO ALBERTO & UNVIERSITA DI TORINO**, TORINO, ITALY  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS S. COGNETTI DE MARTIIS**  
VISITING RESEARCH FELLOW (SEPTEMBER 2012 – AUGUST 2013)

## **BOARDS, PANELS, AFFILIATIONS & FELLOWSHIPS**

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**MEDICINE BY DESIGN**, TORONTO, CANADA  
Executive Leadership Team (January 2023 – present)

**PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY JOURNAL**  
Associate Editor (January 2023 – present)

**JOURNAL OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER**  
Editorial Board Member (November 2018 – Present)

**INNOVATION POLICY LAB**, TORONTO, CANADA  
Faculty Member (July 2013 – Present)

**MONASH UNIVERSITY**, AUSTRALIA  
Advisory Board Member (September 2020 – December 2023)

**SPECIAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAM ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**  
Member (September 2020- February 2021)

**ONTARIO IP PANEL**  
Member (April 2019 – July 2019)

**GEOGRAPHY COMPASS JOURNAL**  
Editor, Economic Geography Section (January 2016 – August 2019)

**GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**, ATLANTA, GA  
ADVANCE NETWORK FOR WOMEN FACULTY  
Research Affiliate (2009 - 2014)

**GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**, Atlanta, GA  
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION POLICY PROGRAM  
Visiting Research Associate (2005 – 2007)

**MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**, Cambridge, MA  
INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE CENTER  
Research Affiliate (2003 – 2013)

## **PUBLICATION**

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### **Books:**

Breznitz, S. M., and H. Etzkowitz Editors. **University Technology Transfer: The Globalization of academic innovation**. Routledge press. September 2015.

Breznitz, S. M., *Fountain of Knowledge? The Role of Universities in Economic Development*. Stanford University Press. July 2014.

**Journal Articles (last five years)**

Breznitz, S. M., Denney, S. and Zhang, Q. 2023. "The Role of Intermediaries in the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem." Accepted at the Journal of Technology Transfer.

Hassink, R., Trippel, M., Breznitz, S., Coenen, L., Fitjar, R. D., Gong, H., and Zook, M. 2023. "Progress in Economic Geography: Inaugural Editorial." *Progress in Economic Geography*, 1(1).

Breznitz, S. M., Lawton Smith, H, and Bagchi-Sen, S. 2022. "The Contribution of Students to Regional Economies: Reframing the Regional Innovation Systems Approach." *Regional Studies Journal*. 56(6): 885-891.

Zhang, Q., Clayton, P. A. and Breznitz, S. M. 2022. "The Hope Fulfilled? Measuring Research Performance of Universities in the Economic Crisis." *International Regional Science Review*. 45(6):663-691.

Breznitz, S. M. and Zhang, Q. 2021. "Entrepreneurship Education and Firm Creation." *Regional Studies Journal*. 56(6): 940-955.

Noonan, D. S., Breznitz, S. M., and Maqbool, S. 2021. "Flocking to the Crowd: Cultural Entrepreneur Mobility Guided by Homophily, Market size, or Amenities?" *Journal of Cultural Economics*. 45(4): 577-611.

Noonan, D. S., Breznitz, S. M., and Maqbool, S. 2021. "Looking for a Change in Scene: Analyzing the Mobility of Crowdfunding Entrepreneurs." *Small Business Economics*. 57(2):685-703.

Breznitz, S. M., and Noonan, D. S. 2020. "Crowdfunding in a Not-So-Flat World." *Journal of Economic Geography*. 20 (4): 1069-1092.

Breznitz, S. M. and Zhang, Q. 2020. "Determinants of graduates' entrepreneurial activity." *Small Business Economics*. 55(4): 1039-1056.

Breznitz, S. M. and Zhang, Q. 2019. "Fostering the Growth of Student Start-ups from University Accelerators: An Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Perspective." *Industrial and Corporate Change*. 28(4): 855-873.

Breznitz, S. M. and Noonan, D. S., 2018. "Planting the Seed to Grow Local Creative Industries: Cultural Districts' and Arts Schools' Impacts on Supply and Demand." *Environment and Planning A*. 50(5): 1047-1070.

McCarthy, I. P., Silvestre, B., Von Nordenflycht, A. G. and Breznitz, S. M. 2018. "A Typology of University Research Park Strategies: What Parks Do and Why it Matters." *Journal of Engineering and Technology Management*. 47:110-122.

Breznitz, S. M., Clayton, P. A., Defazio, D. and Isett, K. R. 2018. "Have you been served? Have you been served? The impact of university entrepreneurial support on start-ups' network formation." *Journal of Technology Transfer*. 43(2): 343-367.

Finardi, U. and S. M. Breznitz. 2017. "Factors Affecting University Commercialization: Evidence from Italy." *Ekonomiaz* N.º 92, 2.º semester: 222-246.

**Others:**

Breznitz S. M. and Munro D. 2020. "Cutting post-secondary budgets during COVID a bad move." Published in Policy Options. July 2, 2020.

Breznitz, S. M. and Herman, D. 2020. "A more strategic approach to IP key to long-term recovery." Published in The Hill Times, June 5, 2020.

Breznitz, S. M. and Kenney, M. 2018. Slouching Toward the Downton Abbey University System. *Issues in Science and Technology*. Spring 2018.

**Book Chapters (last five years)**

Brail, S. and Breznitz, S.M. 2023. "Unintentional Innovation: The Role of University Research in Urban Innovation." In Huggins, R., Kitagawa, F., Prokop, D., Theodoraki, C. and Thompson, P. Editors: *Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in Cities and Regions: Emergence, Evolution, Future*. Forthcoming.

Breznitz, S. M., Kazerouni, S. and Zhang, Q. 2022. "Universities' Ownership of Intellectual Property: Focus on Canada." In David B. Audretsch, Erik E. Lehmann, and Albert N. Link, Editors: *Handbook on Technology Transfer*. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.

Breznitz, S. M., Hills, B. and Zhang, Q. 2019. "Measuring Alumni Entrepreneurial Impact: Standardizing the Practice of Alumni Impact Surveys." In Al Link and David Audretsch Editors. *A Research Agenda for Entrepreneurship and Innovation*. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.

**Work in progress:**

Breznitz, S. M. and Zhang, Q. "International Experience and Entrepreneurship: Disentangling the impacts of education and employment." R&R at the Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal.

Zhang, Q., Frank Fox M. and Breznitz. S. M. "Gender and Entrepreneurship."

Marzocchi, C., Breznitz, S. M. and Zhang, Q. "The Role of Employment and Education in Entrepreneurship."

Breznitz, S. M. "A Policy Framework to enable the commercialization of living therapies."

**AD-HOC JOURNAL REVIEWER**

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- Small Business Economics
- Research Policy
- Regional Studies
- Journal of Technology Transfer
- Environment and Planning A
- Economic Geography
- Economic Development Quarterly

**GRANTS, AWARDS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS (LAST 5 YEARS)**

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May 2023. *A policy framework to enable the commercialization of living therapies. Phase 2*. Principle investigator: Shiri M. Breznitz. Sponsor: Medicine by Design CFREF. Funding level: \$180,260.

March 2023. *Taking innovation to the neighborhood: the effect of micro-geographical proximity on innovation and inter-organizational relationships*. Principle investigators Shiri M. Breznitz and David Doloreux. Sponsor: IPL-Lupina small cutting-edge research grants. Funding level: \$ 22,247.

February 2023. *A policy framework to enable the commercialization of living therapies*. Principle investigator: Shiri M. Breznitz. Sponsor: Medicine by Design CFREF. Funding level: \$25,000.

May 2022. *Policies, Performance, and Places: Situating the Relationships between Universities' IPR and Commercialization within the Regional Ecosystem*. PI: Shiri M. Breznitz. Sponsor: Faculty of Arts & Science Tri-Council Bridge Funding & the Munk School. Funding level: \$15,000.

May 2020. *The Role of University Research in Urban Innovation*. Principle investigators Shauna Brail and Shiri M. Breznitz. Sponsor: IPL-Lupina small cutting-edge research grants. Funding level: \$24,000.

April 2019. *New Insights on the "Brain Drain" Problem: A Longitudinal Study of University Graduates*. Principal investigator: Shiri M. Breznitz. Sponsor: SSHRC Insight Grant. \$42,852.

May 2018. *Alumni surveys: Reporting universities' economic impact*. Principle investigator: Shiri M. Breznitz. Sponsor: IPL-Lupina small cutting-edge research grants. Funding level: \$21,360.

April 2018. *Partnership for the organization of innovation and new technologies (4POINT0)*. Principal investigator: Catherine Beaudry. Role: Investigator. Sponsor: SSHRC Partnership Grant. Funding level \$2,499,723.

January 2017. *Alumni Impact Survey*. Principal investigator: Shiri M. Breznitz. Sponsor: University of Toronto, Office of Research. Funding level: \$31,561.

#### **PRESENTATIONS/INVITED TALKS (LAST 5 YEARS)**

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January 2024. *IP Policies, Universities' Commercialization Policies, and Performance*. Geolnno. Manchester, UK.

November 2023. *How Can Universities Contribute to Technology Commercialization? A look at what is happening in Canada*. The Ontario Research & Commercialization Alliance (ORCA) Annual Meeting. Keynote speaker.

October 2023. *IP Policy and Research Commercialization*. Seminar in Innovation and Regional Development, HEC Montreal. Invited workshop presentation.

June 2023. *Entrepreneurial Ecosystems and Firm Growth*. Regional Studies Association Annual Meeting. Ljubljana, Slovenia.

May 2023. *The role of universities as intermediaries in entrepreneurship ecosystems*. The 12 ST Prodem, the main conference of LATAM ecosystems. EAN business school Colombia. Invited Presentation.

November 2022. *Too much support? Entrepreneurial ecosystems and firm growth in the Greater Toronto Area*. McGill University. GeoSpectives speaker series. Invited presentation.

October 2022. *Revisiting the engaged university: Focus on students' entrepreneurship*. The Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. Boston, MA. Invited panel participation.

July 2022. *International Experience and Entrepreneurship: Disentangling the impacts of education and employment*. GeolInno. Milan, Italy.

June 2022. *Too much support? Entrepreneurial ecosystems and firm growth in the Greater Toronto Area*. The sixth Global Conference on Economic Geography. Dublin, Ireland.

May 2022. *Too much support? Entrepreneurial ecosystems and firm growth in the Greater Toronto Area*. 4POINT0 2022 International Conference. Ottawa, Canada.

March 2022. *National Interest in the Digital Era: Canadian Prosperity and Competitiveness*. Geopolitics and National Security Learning Program, Canada School of Public Service. Invited panel participation

February 2022. *The Case for a Place Responsive Higher Education Institution*. Panel participation in the OECD's Geography of Higher Education task-and-finish group. Invited.

January 2022, *Entrepreneurship education and support organizations*. Small Business Administration (SBA) USA. Invited.

November 2021. *From Science to Entrepreneurship*. Munk School IPL and 4Point0  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J\\_FzyPHIGWw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J_FzyPHIGWw)

May 2021. *Regional innovation ecosystems*. University of Concepción, Chile. Invited.

March 2021. *The Role of Intermediaries and Policy in Entrepreneurship Ecosystems*. In the session on Policies, Actors, and Outcomes in Entrepreneurial Ecosystems, part of the workshop series: Workshop Series: The Evolution, Persistence and Success of Entrepreneurial Ecosystems, Cardiff University, UK.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nLXZff3MbW0&list=PL-heuJIFoIF6LGdyocEO0a-z0u8Ee19Oy&index=7>

March 2021. Intellectual property and Entrepreneurship in Canada.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3mr\\_kYgq0Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3mr_kYgq0Y)

June 2020. *COVID-19 & The Impact on Higher Education: What does the future hold?*  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11jHko7M\\_Ms](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11jHko7M_Ms)

May, 2020. *The World after COVID-19*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h1qUEd2XcHo>

January 2020. *Entrepreneurship and the University: Old Wine in New Bottles?* The 5<sup>th</sup> Geography of Innovation Conference. Stavanger, Norway. Keynote speaker.

January 2020. *University-Government Collaboration*. Ministry of Finance. Toronto, ON.

December 2019. *How can Universities supercharge the economy?* Ministry of Economic Development Job Creation and Trade. Toronto, ON.

November 2019. *How can Universities contribute to Canada's economic Competitiveness?* Canada Chamber Roundtable. Toronto, ON.

November 2019. *Student entrepreneurship ecosystems*. Regional innovation Policies Conference. Florence, Italy.

September 2019. Organizer. Technology Transfer Society Annual Meeting. Toronto, ON.

August 2019. *Entrepreneurial Ecosystems for Students (EES): Organizing Framework and Evidence across Countries*. Academy of Management. Boston, MA.

August 2019. *Fostering the Growth of Student Start-ups from University Accelerators: An Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Perspective*. Academy of Management. Boston, MA.

April 2019. *Spikey or flat? Crowdfunding and Regional Advantage*. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting. Washington, DC.

March 2019. *Does Crowdfunding Flatten Regional Advantages?* University of Stavanger Business School. Stavanger, Norway.

February 2019. *Determinants of graduates' entrepreneurial activity*. Polytechnic University of Milan. Milan, Italy.

February 2019. *Determinants of graduates' entrepreneurial activity*. University of Manchester. Manchester, UK.

December 2018. *University technology commercialization: it's all about strategy*. Keynote speech, INTERACT Symposium: The role of University strategies for Interaction with Industry. University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark.

November 2018. *Entrepreneurship and regional development: Universities and economic expectations?* London School of Economics. Department of Geography and the Environment.

November 2018. *Fostering the Growth of Student Start-ups from University Accelerators: An Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Perspective*. Regional Studies Association Annual Meeting. London, UK. Paper Presenter and Session Convener: Universities, entrepreneurship and regional development: meeting original expectations?

September 2018. *Investing in the future: students and economic growth*". Keynote Speech, Triple Helix Annual Meeting. Manchester, UK.

September 2018. *The University as an Innovation Ecosystem - Can the fish live outside the fish bowl?* Triple Helix Annual Meeting. Manchester, UK.

September 2018. *Student migration and academic entrepreneurship*. Triple Helix Annual Meeting. Manchester, UK.

April 2018. *Does Crowd Funding Reduce Regional Advantages?* CDO annual conference. Vancouver, BC.

April 2018. *Fostering the Growth of Student Start-ups from University Accelerators: An Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Perspective*. The Baldy conference on Universities and Development. The State University of New York at Buffalo.

April 2018. *Spikey or flat? Crowdfunding and Regional Advantage*. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting. Washington, DC.

February 2018. *Does Crowdfunding reduce regional advantage?* 4th Geography of Innovation conference. Barcelona, Spain.

## IN MEDIA

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September 2020. Can Canada's universities survive COVID? By Sadiya Ansari. Maclean's Magazine. <https://www.macleans.ca/education/can-canadas-universities-survive-covid/>

## RESEARCH PROJECTS, WORKSHOPS, AND PROFESSIONAL REPORTS (last 5 years)

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2020 **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY IN ONTARIO'S INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM – REPORT TO THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT**  
JIM BALSILLIE, SHIRI M. BREZNITZ, DAN HERMAN, NATALIE RAFFOUL, AND MYRA TAWFIK

2015 **CURRENT STATE OF THE FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY ECOSYSTEM IN THE TORONTO REGION**  
DAN BREZNITZ, SHIRI M. BREZNITZ AND DAVID WOLFE, INNOVATION POLICY LAB WITH THE TORONTO FINANCIAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Fall 2013 - Present **MUNK SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS**  
University of Toronto  
GLA2111H: Research Methods for Capstone  
GLA2000H: Capstone: Innovation Policy  
GLA2014H: Innovation and Economic Development  
USA 400H1F: American Economic Development  
USA311H: Approaches to American Studies: Globalization & Economic Development in the USA  
MUN102H1S: Global Innovation II: Challenges and Solutions

Fall 2009 – 2012 **SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY**  
GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
Task Force (Bachelor's capstone course) PUBP 4010 and PUBP 4020  
Economic Development Policy and Planning PUBP 4260  
Regions, Technology, and Policy PUBP 6417

Michaelmas 2004 **DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY**  
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
Supervisor, Understanding the Economy: Contemporary Geographies of Capitalism

## MILITARY SERVICE

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1991-1993 Research Diagnostician - Israeli Navy

## LANGUAGES

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Fluent in English and Hebrew; proficient in Romanian; and basic knowledge in Arabic

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

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*Technology Transfer Society (T2S). Editorial Board Membe.*  
*American Association of Geographers (AAG)*  
*Regional Studies Association (RSA)*