

SPRU Training Course: Innovation Policy in a Changing Global Context

18–22 June 2018

Day 2: Research policy and innovation policy: joining the dots

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Research and innovation are often thought about as stages in a process or as sets of activity that need to be joined up. In some versions of how this best happens, we start with science and work through to innovation and better outcomes for citizens, users and consumers. In another, the private sector and innovation activity should be the starting place. In yet another version, the specific problem that we want to tackle, or the targeted outcome that we want to see, is thought of as a better starting place. This session will involve working together to map out routes from and between research, innovation, and users are conceived, and how policy rests on those different conceptions to join the dots together. We will use case studies and examples of research-based innovation and processes including policy documents to draw out the different logics which are being used to inform policy and action. We will think about the drivers behind connections between research and innovation domains. We will debate how those drivers are thought of as leading to better social and health outcomes.

