

# **EMPRENDIMIENTO Y UNIVERSIDAD EMPRENDEDORA: CONCEPTUALIZACIÓN, PROPUESTA METODOLÓGICA Y CARACTERIZACIÓN DE LA UNIVERSIDAD POLITÉCNICA DE VALENCIA**

## **TESIS DOCTORAL**

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### **Abstract**

This thesis analyses the characterization of the entrepreneurial universities as key agents for the economic development of their territories. We set out from the debate on the definition of the term Entrepreneurship and its implications for the implementation and empirical analysis. The specific objectives of the thesis are related to (1) the divergence between the conceptualization of entrepreneurship and practical application; (2) the consideration of universities as entrepreneurial ones and their modifications to meet new needs and roles; (3) the characterization of the Polytechnic University of Valencia as an entrepreneurial institution. The thesis is divided into six chapters. The first one is an introduction that outlines the objectives, rationale and methodology. The second chapter focuses on the theoretical framework, where the definition of the term entrepreneurship and its relation to economic development and study from different perspectives (evolution, institutionalism and innovation systems) is addressed.

Chapter 3 is addressed to set the empirical framework where entrepreneurship policies are studied and analysed, organizations and entrepreneurial universities and programs to support entrepreneurship as well as entrepreneurial universities' innovative services.

In the next chapter, we develop our conceptual and theoretical proposal for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship and Business Development Support (FEyADE) services. In this chapter we address the divergence issue between the conceptualization of the term entrepreneurship and its actual application and propose an alternative definition of entrepreneurship. In addition, we analyze the promotion of entrepreneurship in the Spanish university and depict out FEyADE model and the methodology for its implementation.

Chapter 5 focuses on the actual case of the UPV, analyzing each of its three missions as well as its management process and characterize this university as an entrepreneur. Also, we focus on the characterization of IDEAS as an innovative and enterprising service within the Polytechnic University of Valencia. To finish this chapter, we apply the model to the case of FEyADE UPV.

Last chapter of the thesis is devoted to draw conclusions of the study, and to set future research lines from the results.