

Keith Smith: Biography

After training at Cambridge and Sussex universities, Keith Smith worked extensively on issues in the economics of innovation. He worked as an economist at a number of universities: Keele in the UK, Tasmania in Australia, and the UN University in the Netherlands.

Most recently he was Senior Research Fellow at Imperial College Business School from 2009 to 2018. Prior to that he was Professor of Innovation at the University of Tasmania from 2005 to 2008.

He has worked in a number of policy positions. From 2009 to 2012 he was head of the policy analysis division for science and technology in the UK Department of Business, Innovation and Skills.

In 2005-6 he worked for the European Commission, at the Joint Research Centre in Seville, Spain.

For ten years (1990-2000) he was Director of the STEP Group (Group for Studies in Technology, Innovation and Economic Policy) in Oslo, Norway. His work has focussed on the structure of innovation processes, on the economic history of innovation, on innovation in low-technology industries, and on innovation indicators.