

Spillovers at the Research Unit Level**Walter Garcia-Fontes & Raul Gonzalez****Universitat Pompeu Fabra****raul.gonzalez@upf.edu**

This paper looks at the impact of knowledge spillovers using a survey of inventors. We propose to assess the existence of spillovers at the research unit level, defining as such the network of inventors that arises from the research done to create new patentable knowledge. We propose to value a research unit in a novel way, by means of valuation techniques similar to the ones used in the theory of the firm, and therefore our measure can be interpreted as the present discounted value adjusted by the renewal cost of intellectual capital. With this model, we assess empirically the importance of spillovers at the research unit level, by estimating the effect of spillovers on the present discounted value of the research unit adjusted by the replacement cost of intellectual capital. We construct three different types of spillover pools. After correcting for sample selection and endogeneity, we find that our results do not change with respect to the different spillover pools, which come up positive and significant. The point estimates are nevertheless unplausibly high.