Yrjö Neuvo Jubilee
Education, research and innovations: Predicting the unpredictable

October 3, 2020
Yrjö and Innovation Policy

Marja Makarow
Technology Academy Finland
National innovation policy with Yrjö during 15 min taxi ride

Yrjö: Nokia Research Center has ambitious plans, they need helo from top mathematicians

Marja: UH Kumpula campus attracts only wannabe Field medallists – no interest in applications

Result: Kumpula and NRC got together
  Kumpula realized: NRC’s futuristic ambitions need frontier mathematics
  NRC realized: Kumpula mathematicians are brilliant and willing to collaborate

Outcome: Joint research programme established
  Funding from Teknologiateollisuuden 100-vuotissäätiö

Impact: Industrial Mathematics programme established on Kumpula campus
  New professorship - attracted best mathematicians of Finland
  Experts in applied mathematics impact numerous sectors of society
Yrjö at the European level: Founding of EIT
European Institute of Innovation and Technology

EIT since 2010, body of European Commission
EU funding 2.4 – 3 B€ per Horizon programme

Mission
Translation of Europe’s research strengths to benefits for society
By creation of ecosystems
• enhancing companies’ access to talent, innovation know-how, partners and market opportunities
• integrating research, business and education
EIT today
Built on foundations created by Yrjö et al

- Thematic Knowledge and Innovation Communities
- Each KIC has headquarters and network of nodes in different countries – 60 Innovation Hubs

- EIT Climate-KIC 2010
- EIT Digital 2010
- EIT Food 2017
- EIT Health 2015
- EIT InnoEnergy 2010
- EIT Manufacturing 2019
- EIT RawMaterials 2015
- EIT Urban Mobility 2019

9th KIC: Culture and creative Industries?
After EIT’s consolidation:

**New kid on the block - European Innovation Council**

**EIC:** 10 B€ + 5 B€ from EIC Fund; Horizon Europe 2021-2027
Support to develop breakthrough innovations in deep tech with potential to create new markets and boost jobs and growth

For individual researchers (grants) and SMEs (grants + M€ equity)

**EIT and EIC:** perfect synergy
**EIC** supports researchers and start-ups/SMEs to enter markets and scale up

**EIT** provides them its Europe-wide ecosystem of 1500 partners: companies, universities, cities
Offers building of innovation capacity together with top universities in cross-border educational programmes
Thank you Yrjö

For your impactful contributions!

Collaboration continues in frame of the Millennium Technology Prize