A University Campus in a Small City: Discovering which Sector Benefit

Presented by:

David Dyason NWU - School of Economics

This study:

To identify and quantify the sectors benefit as a result of expenditure made by a university campus; "university-sector linkages".



Some background

- Universities contribute to the quality of human capital, which is a key for economic development.
- Universities are regarded as institutions that, *inter alia*:
 - a. facilitate knowledge creation &
 - b. provide a platform where knowledge can then be shared with students and industry through teaching, learning and research, to benefit the economy.
- South African Government:
 - Ensuring skilled professionals for the economy improve higher education through skills development and promoting of research (Department of Higher Education & Training, 2015:9)
 - The National Development Plan (NDP) of South Africa promotes the improvement in quality of education and the accessibility to education as key factor of economic development (National Planning Commission 2012:16).
 - To this end, government has established two new public universities in provinces that lack these institutions, the Northern Cape and Mpumalanga Provinces.
- However, is the economic benefit created by universities only manifested through education and research (knowledge)?



Some background

- Universities represent institutions which are not only important for national economic growth but also to the benefit of the local economy, especially when considering that universities are considered relatively resilient to business cycle fluctuations (Steinacker, 2005:1161).
- Reporting on the university-sector linkages is **seldom reported** on within economic impact assessment studies. In the majority of cases the input-output models indicates the **linkages**, but these **are often not reported on**. High value in understanding this link.
- The best way to identify this link is by means of an alternative approach. Bill-of-goods.

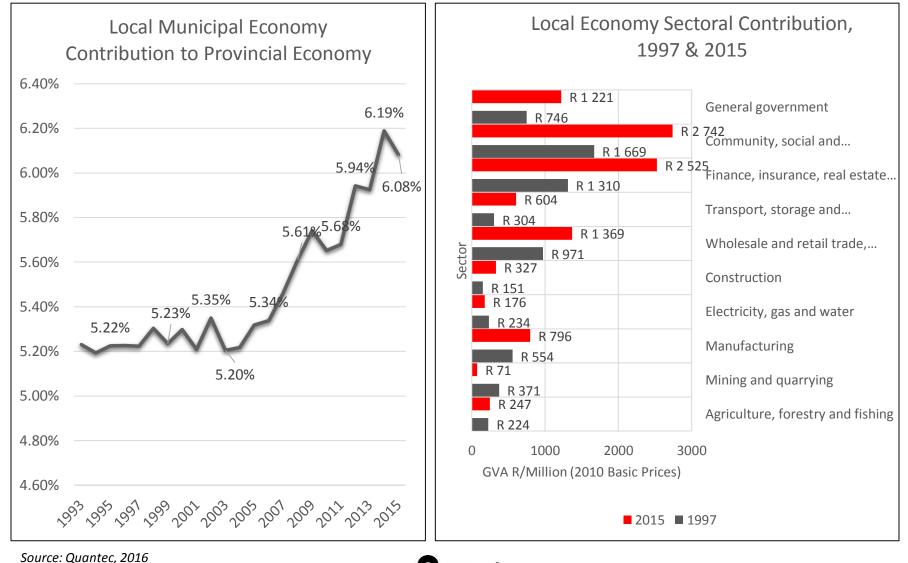


University-sector link. What is the benefit in knowing?

- 1. The influence of the university on the local economy should not be taken for granted especially when considering that the value of expenditure is **bound to benefit the economy**: generating economic activity and employment.
- 2. Furthermore, understanding the university-sectoral link that result from university expenditure provides a starting point in measuring the impact of a campus on the economy (SAM models on provincial level).
- Government is supporting the development of 2 new universities.
 What sectors are bound to benefit from university expenditure?
- NWU Potchefstroom Campus as case study

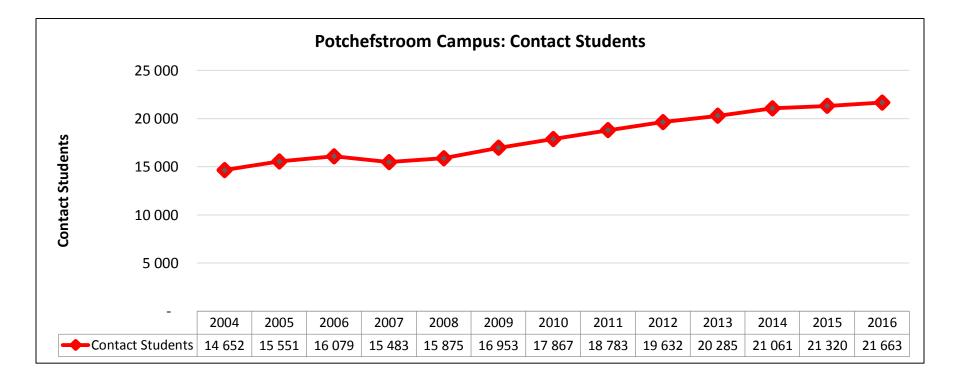


The Setting - The local economy



Ŵ

The Setting - The university campus



The Potchefstroom campus is experiencing a period of growth and expansion which has affected the value of expenditure from the campus.



What do we know! Literature review

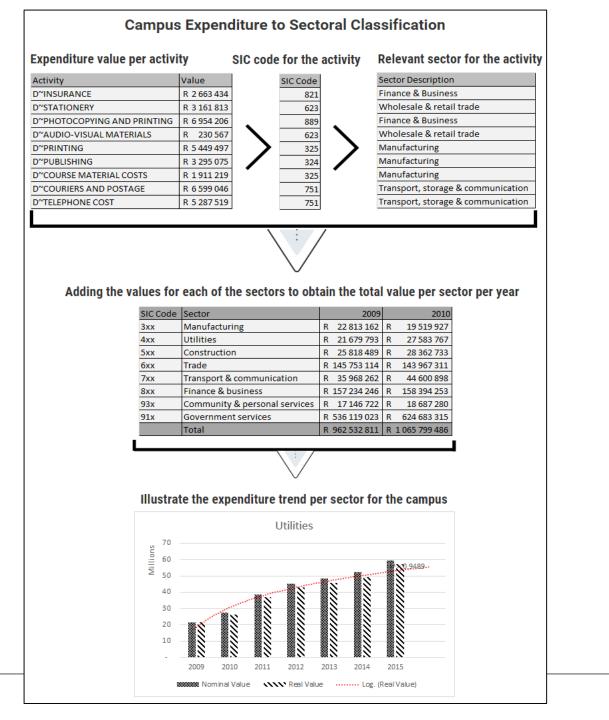
- The majority of university impact studies that followed made use of the **economic base approach**, albeit with adjustments to the model proposed by Caffrey and Isaacs (1971).
- These models are a quantitative representation for direct and indirect impacts on the economy that are subject to the <u>operational and</u> <u>capital expenditure</u>, as well as <u>university employment</u> (Drucker & Goldstein, 2007:24).
- The information is then applied to calculate **multipliers**, which shows the **additional benefit gained in the economy** as a result of spending and employment from the institution, to illustrate the gain to the economy.



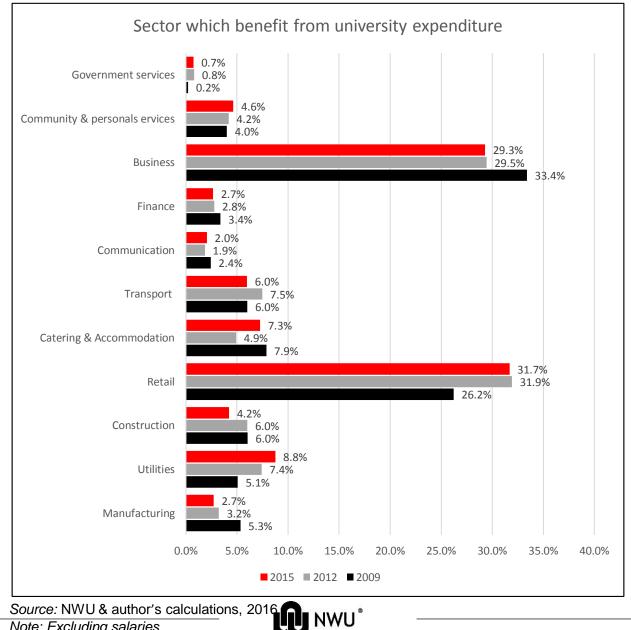
Approach! How to calculate the benefit?

• **Bill-of-Goods Approach** - considers the specific investment or expenditure value made by a university, which is a more detailed analysis than the off-the-shelf input-output analysis (Ambargis *et al*, 2011).





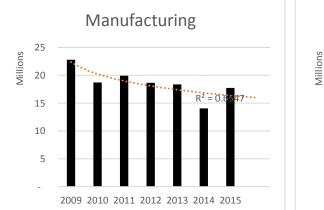
The sector that benefit?

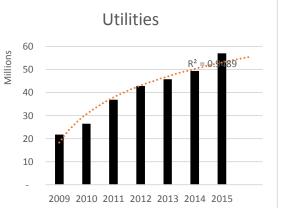


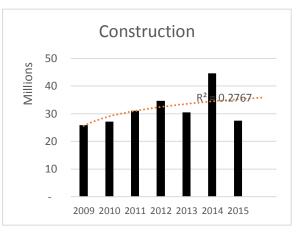
The sector that benefit?

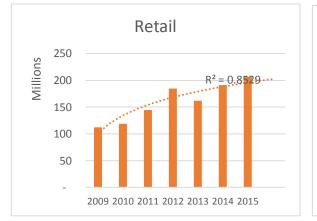
- The expenditure from the Potchefstroom Campus of the North-West University benefits, largely the tertiary sectors (85%)
- Three sectors in particular, the retail and business services sectors, gain the most from university expenditure, while expenditure growth in smaller sectors such as catering and accommodation and utilities shows growth prospects.

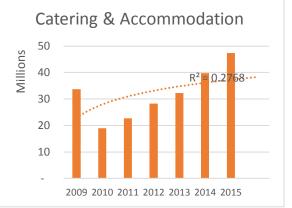


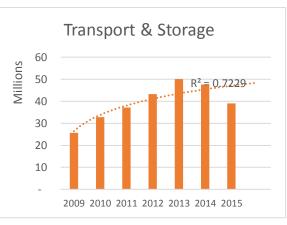


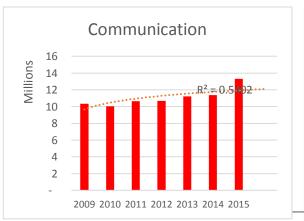


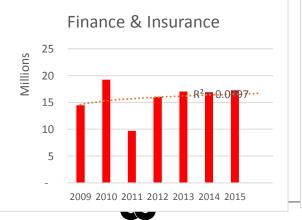


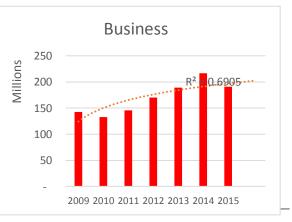












Expenditure on Activities

Activity	Sector or sub-sector
Publishing, course material, printing	Manufacturing
Water, electricity	Utilities
Building work, carpeting, electrical	Construction
Food, books, refreshments	Retail trade
Entertainment, accommodation	Catering and accommodation
Travel	Transport and storage
Postage, telephone, courier	Communication
Legal, consultation, software	Business Services
Insurance, bank cost	Finance & insurance
Gardening, laundry	Community and personal services
Property tax, staff development (excluding	General government
personnel remuneration)	

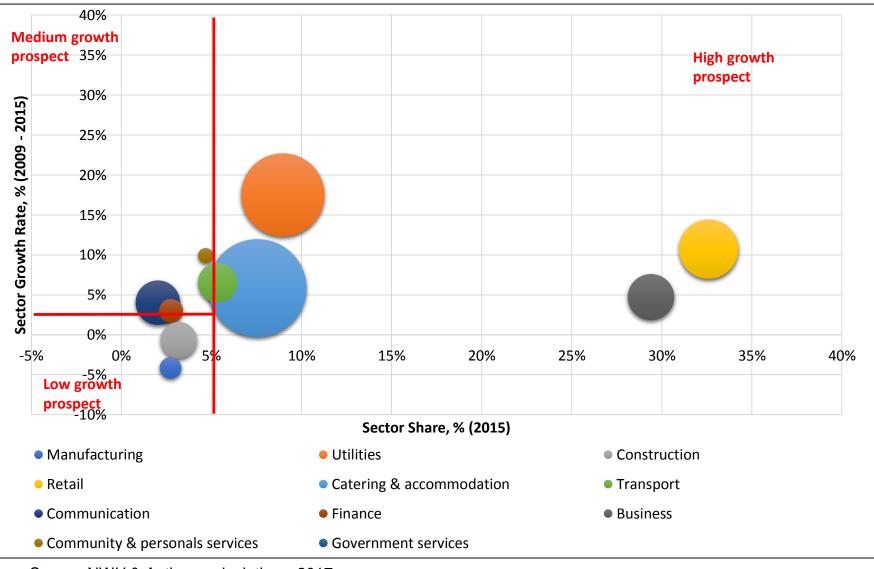


What to expect next?

- Potential for growth given historical trends?
- Growth prospects = $f(S_s, S_g, LQ)$ where:
 - Where S_s is the sector' share of total campus expenditure, S_g is sector growth over the past seven years and LQ is the location quotient, an indication of the concentration of the sector compared to the local economy.
- Low, medium and high growth probability:



Growth prospects of these sectors?



Source: NWU & Authors calculations, 2017



Thank you

david.dyason@nwu.ac.za

NWU - School of Economics

