

Contents

<i>Preface and Acknowledgements</i>	ix
Introduction: The Pulse of Modern Academia	1
Analytical Strategy	7
1 Thematizing Acceleration	11
Acceleration as a sociological theme	12
Critique of the fast world	14
Hartmut Rosa: acceleration thesis	17
Socio-cultural immediacy	27
Conclusion	32
2 Continuity and Change in the Temporal Dynamics of Capitalism	34
Capitalism's speed imperatives	35
Intensive and extensive dimensions: post-Fordist accelerated growth	44
The cultural logic of acceleration: racing and competing	49
The politics of de- and re-synchronization	52
Conclusion	61
3 Vehicularity: The Idea of the Knowledge Economy	63
Genealogy of the idea of the knowledge economy	67
Qualifying knowledge	71
Promoting and stabilizing the idea of the knowledge economy	72
Academia in the conditions of the knowledge economy: diagnoses, analyses, extensions	77
Conclusion	88
4 Performativity: Competitiveness and Excellence	90
The material significance of rhetoric	92
Competitiveness-talk (or, against slowness)	95
Excellence-talk	105
Conclusion	113
5 Acceleration in the Academic Life-World	115
Socially differentiated temporal autonomy	118
Pleasures and pressures of acceleration	122
Conclusion	139

6	Fast Sites: Igniting and Catapulting Knowledge	142
	Re-missioning academia	144
	Catapulting and incubating	147
	Fast sites in the Russell Group	154
	Conclusion	166
7	Sociology, Fast and Slow	168
	Sociology's 'chronopolitics'	170
	Auditing sociology	183
	Conclusion	195
	Conclusion: For a Temporal Autonomy of Academia	196
	<i>Appendices</i>	200
	<i>Notes</i>	205
	<i>Bibliography</i>	211
	<i>Index</i>	233