

INTERNATIONAL APPLIED RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM CALL FOR PAPERS



THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF THE INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP ECOSYSTEM LESSONS LEARNED

Hosted by:

**Cleveland State University, Cleveland Ohio, USA
&
Asher Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship
Holy Spirit University of Kaslik, Lebanon**

**November 6 & 7, 2017
Kaslik, Lebanon**

SYMPOSIUM OBJECTIVE:

The complex global environment for innovation and entrepreneurship has experienced significant changes during the past decade requiring a deeper understanding of micro, meso, and macro forces to realize sustained success. Many countries, especially developing ones, hope to obtain competitive edge through innovation and to strengthen their economies through encouraging entrepreneurship. Given the importance of innovation and entrepreneurship for national/regional economic growth, you are invited to submit a paper to the International Research Symposium on Innovation and Entrepreneurship to be held on the 6th and 7th, November 2017 at the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik, Lebanon. Known for its outstanding landscape where mountains and coastlines surround the country's borders, Lebanon is recently striving in the field of innovation & entrepreneurship development. With a solid banking system, Beirut, its capital, is ranked by the Globalization and World Cities Research Network as a Beta World City.

The International Applied Research Symposium, entitled the *Transforming Power of the Innovation & Entrepreneurship Ecosystem – Lessons Learned*, will bring together entrepreneurship researchers, practitioners and policy makers from around the globe to debate the emerging challenges and long-term solutions affecting technology, innovation, sustainability of global talent and business industries in our globalized economies. Innovation,

entrepreneurship, and technology will form the pillars of a knowledge-based, highly productive and competitive economy, driven by entrepreneurs and leaders in a business-friendly environment where public and private sectors form effective partnerships. Today, applied research is key to feed industries and institutions especially in the areas of innovation and entrepreneurship where practice leads theory. Through the dissemination and exchange of ideas among researchers, students, policy makers and practitioners, this symposium will promote a better understanding of current matters in all fields related.

Business incubators/accelerators are growing in emerging markets and their practices seem to vary by a nation's/regions cultural, economic and political milieu. We predict that the next phase of growth will be centered on building thriving local entrepreneurial ecosystems in regions such as the Middle East; a critical must to the success of startups and/or small, growing businesses. The ecosystem concept lends itself for the application of a wide range of different theoretical and practical lenses to understand contextual determinants of new venture creation, strategies, and growth where entrepreneurship in research and in practice can build a body of high quality, cumulative findings that extends our current knowledge and contributes to the development of a strong ecosystem.

CALL FOR PAPERS TOPICS:

Responding to the call for increased impact, this symposium seeks innovative applied research that creates or builds on existing key debates and questions to generate richer, more robust understandings of the domain of applied innovation & entrepreneurship research. We welcome abstracts & short papers related, but not limited to, the following axes and topics:

1. Innovation & Entrepreneurship & Economic Growth

- Entrepreneurial dimensions & economic growth;
- The influence of meso-environment factors, such as incubators and accelerators, on innovation & entrepreneurship;
- Innovation in services, logistics and supply-chain management;
- Sustainable innovation & technology incubation;
- Ways in which entrepreneurial ecosystems support start-up, growth, and sustainability of entrepreneurship;
- Entrepreneurial finance and challenges and opportunities for startups/business ventures;
- Technology transfer, regulatory framework, marketing and commercialization
- Human capital, innovation and productivity;
- The influence of network ties, interactions, and positioning on family owned businesses in local ecosystems;

- SME development & community engagement to foster economic growth;
- Social entrepreneurship and regional development;
- Strategic Entrepreneurship & Family Business;
- Rural Entrepreneurship – Prospects and Challenges;
- Sources of Funding for Entrepreneurship Growth.

2. Culture in Innovation & Entrepreneurship

- Cross-cultural issues, innovation and entrepreneurship;
- The influence of ecosystem institutions, culture and policies on innovation & entrepreneurship;
- Legal, political and cultural challenges in innovative and entrepreneurial ventures in developing economies;
- Innovations, entrepreneurship, cultural and leadership issues.

3. Innovation & Entrepreneurship in Education

- Role of universities in innovation, entrepreneurship and regional development;
- The importance of innovation & entrepreneurship education for the region's economic growth;
- Trends, patterns, and challenges of innovation and entrepreneurship education in the Middle East.

4. Entrepreneurship in the Arab World

- Character Traits of the Middle Eastern entrepreneur;
- Push-Pull Meso-Framework of Arab Entrepreneurial Culture;
- Comparative gender entrepreneurship in the Arab world;
- Entrepreneurship autonomy of Arab women;
- Social entrepreneurship in the Arab world;
- Lebanese expatriate entrepreneurship worldwide;
- Entrepreneurial governance in Lebanese financial institutions;
- Business entrepreneurship, the Lebanese way;
- Challenges and opportunities for family owned businesses in the Arab world;
- National systems of entrepreneurship and SME development;

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: June 12, 2017

<p><u>Scholars in U.S.A</u> Submit papers to: Dr. Raj G. Javalgi Associate Dean Professor of Marketing and International Business Monte Ahuja College of Business East 18th Street, Euclid Avenue, BU 415 Cleveland, Ohio 44115 Email: r.javalgi@csuohio.edu</p>	<p><u>Scholars in Middle East & Europe</u> Submit papers to: Dr. Tina Habib Chairperson – Marketing Department Faculty of Business & Commercial Sciences Holy Spirit University of Kaslik Kaslik Main Road P.O. Box 446, Jounieh, Lebanon Email: tinahabib@usek.edu.lb</p>
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CALENDAR

Deadline Dates	Task
June 12, 2017	Deadline to send in abstracts or short papers;
July 28, 2017	Notification to authors of the approval or refusal of their abstracts/papers;
August 18, 2017	Deadline for receipt of the final amended paper for integration into Conference Proceedings in electronic format.

PAPER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

The official conference language is English. Mini-papers can be submitted in the form of five to eight pages embodying the following criteria:

- a) Author presentation: surname, name, institution, full address, telephone number, fax, electronic mail and brief biography;
- b) An abstract of around 250 words with 5 keywords referring to the central themes and concepts developed in the article;
- c) A title and brief plan of the paper;
- d) A paper written in Times New Roman 12, justified and A4 format. The paper must not exceed 8 pages with 1.5 line spacing, enclosing annexes and bibliography. Tables and illustrations must be numbered and inserted within the text. The upper, lower and lateral margins should be equal to 2.5 cm.

**The scientific committee will evaluate the suitability of each submitted paper in “double blinding” according to the scientific norms in force, and will propose, if necessary, any suggested modifications. All accepted papers would be published electronically in the symposium proceedings.