



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
DI BERGAMO

Dipartimento di Scienze aziendali, economiche e metodi quantitativi



EMLYON Business School and the Entrepreneurial Lab Research Center (ELAB), University of Bergamo are pleased to invite you to the

**5th ELab Symposium
5 June 2013, Lyon, France
(Just before the Babson BCERC conference, also in Lyon)**

Conference theme:

FAMILY ENTREPRENEURSHIP: A NEW FIELD OF RESEARCH

Background and Purpose

The importance of family business to global economies is paramount. There is indeed consensus on the fact that family business worldwide is the most frequent form of organization (Faccio & Lang, 2002; Holderness, 2009; Lopez de Silanes, La Porta, & Shleifer, 1999) and makes important contributions to the global economy (Feltham, Feltham, & Barnett, 2005; Kelly, Athanassiou, & Crittenden, 2000; Shanker & Astrachan, 1996).

Recent research (Zahra & Wright, 2011; Welter, 2011) has underlined the importance of context for a better understanding of the entrepreneurial phenomenon. As note Anderson, Jack and Drakopoulou Dodd (2005) the definitions of family business and entrepreneurship have until recently been mutually exclusive, leading to a conceptual gap between the two areas of study, with the impact of the family on entrepreneurial firms understudied. Indeed, the family business literature sees the family firm as a bounded identity, businesses directly involving family members, and focuses on the particularities of these firms versus others. Taking the firm as main level of analysis has left unexplored important questions such as informal family contributions or network (Anderson et al, 2005), family entrepreneurial orientation as potential antecedent to transgenerational value creation (Zellweger, Nason and Nordqvist, 2012), or involvement in the board of directors (Sciascia, Mazzola, Astrachan, Pieper, 2013). Research has been done at the intersection of *family business* and *strategic entrepreneurship* (Lumpkin, Brigham & Moss, 2010) but not at the intersection of *family*, *family business* and *entrepreneurship* (Fayolle & Begin, 2009, Hoy & Sharma, 2010; Nordqvist & Melin, 2010; Uhlaner, Kellermanns, Eddleston & Hoy, 2010).

Some families have strong backgrounds in business ownership, which pass through successive generations (Fuller, 2003). As the breeding ground for entrepreneurial predispositions (Rogoff & Heck, 2003), how do these families influence their members?

The influence of the business on the family is also important because, for example, women entrepreneurs and heads of household tend to spend more on household health, nutrition and education than men (Nichter and Goldmark, 2009). In developed economies, the gender revolution (Goldscheider, 2000) has transformed the woman's adult role structure: women assume responsibilities in both the professional and family spheres. In developing countries, females have been assigned a special role because they stand to benefit from entrepreneurship and are seen as a critical driver of entrepreneurship in light of their unique role in the household, and in light of the rise in female-headed households across the developing world (Horrell and Krishnan, 2007).

Mission of this call for papers

This call for papers is based on the assumption that in order to better understand the interplay between family and entrepreneurship, we must embrace a broader perspective than the dichotomous approach that opposes family firms versus non-family ventures. We embrace a broad view of entrepreneurship: new entry, but also entrepreneurial behaviors, processes, and cognitions are of interest (Fayolle & Begin, 2009).

Starting from the consideration that family is “the oxygen that feeds the fire of entrepreneurship” (Rogoff and Heck; 2003), this Symposium will focus on papers that consider connections between: family, family member(s), entrepreneurship, family business, and the society and economy.

The symposium is intended to generate papers that offer new theoretical perspectives and empirical insights as well as consider in depth the issues, problems, contexts, or processes associated with entrepreneurship in familial contexts, or families in the context of entrepreneurship. We welcome a variety of theoretical and empirical approaches to these issues.

A suggestive but not exhaustive list of relevant topics includes:

- The role of corporate entrepreneurship in family businesses
- The relationships between family features and entrepreneurial processes
- The relationships between family ownership and entrepreneurial processes
- The relationships between family businesses and entrepreneurial processes
- Generational influences on opportunity recognition/exploitation in family businesses
- The relationships between entrepreneurship processes/behaviors and the socioemotional wealth in family businesses
- Differences between family and non-family firms in terms of entrepreneurial behaviors
- Transgenerational entrepreneurship (for example, how growth and performance vary across generations)
- Portfolio Entrepreneurship in the Context of family firms
- Entrepreneurial family firms in uncertain environments

- The successor as entrepreneur
- The influence of the family on the nascent entrepreneur
- How the dynamics of family entrepreneurship may change the World
- The Futures of Family Entrepreneurship

FIRST SESSION: KEY NOTES

9.00 Registration

9.30 Welcome address: Alain Fayolle (EM Lyon Business School), Giovanna Dossena (ELab)

10-12 Potential Keynote Speakers:

- Maria Minniti (Cox School of Business at Southern Methodist University)
- Isabelle Le Breton Miller (HEC Montréal) **TBC**
- Luis R. Gómez-Mejia (Texas A & M University) **TBC**

SECOND SESSION: PRESENTATIONS

Present your work

We invite participants with a research interest to present their work. This work will be discussed in small groups in dedicated workshop sessions with outstanding scholars.

Paper submission

Please submit an academic paper, or extended abstract of at least seven pages. Papers can be fully developed, but we particularly encourage the submission of working papers that can benefit from our interactive workshop format. Please submit via Kathleen Randerson (kathleenranderson@yahoo.fr), according to the agenda below.

- You can submit up to 3 papers/abstracts. If your name appears on more than (3) three abstracts, we will ask you to withdraw the additional papers/abstracts.
- Let us remind you that the submissions should clearly highlight the following topics:
 - Title of the paper
 - Author(s) name(s), main affiliation, email of at least one author
 - the aim of the paper
 - the contribution to the literature
 - the methodology
 - the results and implications
- Formatting rules: Max 30 single-spaced pages, Minimum 5 pages, APA style (including references, tables and graphs). Margins: 2.54 cm (top, bottom, left and right)
- We will use a double-blind review process. The author's names will be taken off by the organizers before sending the pieces to the reviewers.

Information & registration

The registration fee for the conference is €100. To keep an interactive and community atmosphere, participation will be limited to 50 participants. For information concerning registration and logistics, as well as updates of the program, please consult the website: www.unibg.it/elab (opening soon).

Contact: Elisabeth Gelas (gelas@em-lyon.com) Kathleen Randerson (kathleenranderson@yahoo.fr)

Important deadlines

- Research paper submission: Friday, April 26th, 2013
- Author notification: Monday, May 6th, 2013
- Registration open: Monday, May 13th, 2013
- Conference: June 5th, 2013 (just before Babson, also in Lyon this year)

Publication opportunities

The journal Futures® has offered to publish a special issue on the Futures of Family Entrepreneurship. Futures® is an international, refereed, multidisciplinary journal concerned with medium and long-term futures of cultures and societies, science and technology, economics and politics, environment and the planet and individuals and humanity. Covering methods and practices of futures studies, the journal seeks the rigorous examination of possible and alternative futures of all human endeavors. Futures® seeks to promote divergent and pluralistic visions, ideas and opinions about the future.

The Special Issue will reflect rigorous examinations of possible and alternative futures created through the dynamics that Family Entrepreneurship has; on family businesses, on individual members of families and on society and the economy more generally. To be included for publication papers need a futures orientation, not just as an afterthought, but inherent in the paper; for example as an exploration of trends, or as different visions, or as alternative scenarios, or as the corollary of a critical analysis of assumptions, or an explanation of tensions between different powers producing different effects etc. Epistemologically futures are diverse and created and hence multiple, not singular (future). The Special issue will explore how different futures can be created through the dynamics of family entrepreneurship.

A selection of presented papers will undergo a double blind review process for publication in this special issue.

An edited book will be published including a selection of papers from the conference and the keynote papers.

Routledge, partner for this workshop, will be granting a prize to reward the author of the best paper.