



Call for Research Papers Special Issue

“Family Businesses from a World Perspective – Strategic, Governance, Organizational, and Socio-Psychological Heterogeneity”

Deadline: September 30, 2011

The International Family Enterprise Research Academy (IFERA) is pleased to announce the **2011 Call for Research Papers** in conjunction with a Special Issue of the **Journal of Family Business Strategy (JFBS)**.

This **JFBS Special Issue** seeks to explore family business from a world perspective and relative to the variations in strategic, governance, organizational, and socio-psychological dimensions. Most of the research in the field of family business, to date, has been focused on prevalence, the internal nature, and/or singular and country-specific conceptual topics. Although this is a natural starting point for a developing field of study, the nature of family firms can be examined comparatively, as they exist worldwide. Further, the varied nature of family businesses can be explored in depth and relative to these important dimensions.

Theoretical, conceptual and empirical papers are welcome, and emphasis will be placed on high quality work that pushes the family business field of study beyond its current status into new frontiers of knowledge. The aim of this Special Issue is to foster original and authoritative work from leading researchers around the world. In particular, authors of **2011 IFERA AMERICAS and SICILY** conference papers are encouraged to submit their manuscripts to the **JFBS Special Issue**. Interested authors are welcome to meet and discuss their work with the guest editors and JFBS editorial team members during the IFERA Sicily conference.

The **Guest Tri-Editors** of this **JFBS Special Issue** are **Ramona Zachary** at Baruch College, NY, USA, **Sanjay Goel** at University of Minnesota Duluth, USA and **Pietro Mazzola** at IULM University, Milano, Italy. We welcome an array of family business research topics that illustrate variations both internally and externally to the family firm. Possible topics include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Strategy

- When and how do family businesses formulate either or both family strategies and business strategies, and what goals do they pursue with their strategies?

- How do family businesses vary in the implementation of their strategies?
- What are the effects of strategic positions or processes such as growth and performance?

2. Governance

- How do governance structures and processes vary based on size, industry, etc. as well as throughout the developing stages of the family business over time and how do they relate to performance and level of achievement as well as sustainability over time?
- Are governance structures and processes within the family business related to governance patterns within the family?
- What are the uses and/or limitations of general governance lenses (e.g. agency/stewardship) in the study of family businesses?

3. Organizational Dimensions

- How do organizational structures and processes vary among family businesses?
- How are organizational dimensions related to other dimensions of the family business such as strategy formation and implementation?
- Do organizational change, adaptability and sustainability vary by country and culture?

4. Socio-psychological Dimensions

- What is the interplay between the social and psychological dimensions of the business owning family and its business?
- What social structures and processes in both the family and the business exist and how do they vary in various stages of development and over time such as family meetings for the family or work satisfaction and reward structures within the business?
- What role do emotions play within both the family and the business as well as how they might be interrelated?

5. Global Perspective and Heterogeneity

- How do family businesses vary by strategic, governance, organizational and socio-psychological dimensions between or among countries or cultures?
- What are the similarities among family businesses worldwide?

- c. What are the advantages or disadvantages of variations among family businesses worldwide?

Submitted papers will have the opportunity to go through a double-blind review process and, if successful, will be subsequently published in this **JFBS Special Issue for June 2012 Volume 3, Issue 2**. Authors should follow the directions for manuscript preparation and submission available under <http://www.ees.elsevier.com/jfbs/>.

Manuscripts may be submitted at any time prior to the deadline of September 30, 2011 and will begin their respective review processes immediately after submission.

To ensure that all manuscripts are correctly identified for inclusion into this Special Issue, it is important that authors select 'SI-IFERA AMERICAS/SICILY' when they reach the "Article Type" step in the submission process. Authors will receive their first round reviews by October 28, 2011 via the Elsevier Editorial System (EES). For questions regarding submissions or the content of this Special Issue, authors are welcome to write to one of the guest editors: **Ramona Zachary** (ramona.zachary@baruch.cuny.edu), **Sanjay Goel** (sgoel@d.umn.edu) or **Pietro Mazzola** (pietro.mazzola@iulm.it).

About the Journal

The Journal of Family Business Strategy (JFBS) publishes research that contributes new knowledge and understanding to the field of family business. The Journal is interdisciplinary and international in scope and welcomes submissions that address all aspects of how family influences business and business influences family. JFBS publishes quantitative research as well as qualitative work and purely theoretical or conceptual papers. No matter which methodological approach, research published in JFBS meets the highest standards for rigorous and excellent research. Further details on JFBS can be obtained from <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jfbs>.

Timeline and Submissions

- September 30, 2011: Deadline for all submissions
- October 28, 2011: First-round reviews to be sent to authors
- December 5, 2011: Authors resubmit revised papers relative to reviewers' comments
- January 9, 2011: Second-round reviews sent to authors
- February 20, 2011: Authors to resubmit final revised papers
- March 20, 2012: Guest editors make final acceptance decisions