

16<sup>th</sup> Edition and 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual  
**Family Enterprise Research Conference (FERC)**

**May 24 - 27, 2021**

Hosted virtually by Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

**CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**



**Submission Deadline: March 1, 2021**

**Notification of Acceptance: April 1, 2021**

**Theme: “Learning from the Past to Move Forward”**

**Invitation**

We cordially invite you to join the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of the Family Enterprise Research Conference (FERC). The 2021 conference will be the first FERC meeting—since its establishment in 2005—to be held *completely online*. While the new context allows for exciting opportunities, FERC remains committed to serving family firm scholars, practitioners, educators, consultants, and others through its core goals that include:

- Supporting high-quality research that contributes to the knowledge of family enterprises;
- Challenging scholars to enhance the rigor, relevance, and reach of research;
- Creating partnerships among and between scholars and practitioners; and
- Developing family business scholars by providing professional development opportunities, especially for those early in their careers.

The 2021 conference offers a new, *virtual experience* designed to offer an array of sessions and opportunities in both synchronous and asynchronous formats. Highlights of FERC 2021 include:

- A 4-day conference with live programming in half-day increments;
- Updated session formats and new initiatives like the “**5&5 Virtual Research Presentations**”;
- Recognition of FERC’s Lifetime Achievement Award winners: **Danny Miller & Isabelle LeBreton-Miller** (HEC Montreal) and **Lloyd Steier** (Alberta School of Business);
- Keynotes and featured sessions with leaders in the field; and
- Numerous conference awards that include Best Research Video, Best Research Feedback, Best Workshop, Best Symposium or Panel, Best Practitioner Insights, Best Theme-Related Project/Session, and more!

**Additional information on FERC and the conference is available [at the FERC website](#).**

*(See the following pages for additional conference details.)*



16<sup>th</sup> Edition and 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual  
**Family Enterprise Research Conference (FERC)**  
**May 24 - 27, 2021**

**CONFERENCE OVERVIEW**

FERC 2021 is now open to receiving submissions for various types of sessions. These sessions include a mix of **synchronous and asynchronous** formats that will all be held virtually as part of this year's conference. An overview of session types is listed below, and the following pages include submission details for each type of session. The conference registration fee is \$75 USD for faculty/practitioners and \$25 USD for students. Further, multiple submissions are permitted, following the 3+3 rule (i.e., being included in no more than 3 "5&5" research-based proposals and in no more than 3 other proposals).

**FERC 2021 welcomes the following types of submissions:**

1. **5&5 Virtual Research Presentations:** This initiative is taking the place of the popular poster presentations. Authors will submit a 1-page abstract, and if accepted, will then be invited to record a video presentation of their research. The video is limited to *5 slides in 5 minutes*. Video presentations will be posted prior to and during the conference, and authors will receive feedback on their research from conference participants asynchronously. – **UPDATED initiative!**
2. **Virtual Professional Development Workshops:** Synchronous sessions designed to enhance the skills of family-business scholars, teachers, consultants, and/or practitioners. Presented synchronously and available for later viewing. – **UPDATED initiative!**
3. **Virtual Symposium or Panel Discussion:** Synchronous symposia and panel discussions on emerging and/or novel topics of interest to family-business scholars, teachers, consultants, and/or practitioners. Presented synchronously and available for later viewing. – **UPDATED initiative!**
4. **3&3 Practical Insights Video Interview:** Authors of recently published studies may submit a proposal highlighting the practical insights of their scholarly work. Authors of selected proposals will be interviewed. The video interviews will debut at the conference and will be distributed to educators, practitioners, and others. Proposals are limited to *3 pages*, and interviews will be *3 minutes*. – **NEW initiative!**
5. **Paper Development Session:** Full-length papers submitted. Author(s) will be matched with another author/author team and an experienced scholar to develop their manuscript. These sessions will be held online at a mutually convenient time as determined by the participating parties. At least one author for each paper must commit to reading and offering feedback on another author's/author team's submission. Accepted manuscripts are automatically accepted to present in a 5&5 session. – **UPDATED initiative!**
6. **Research Seminar:** This exclusive seminar for doctoral students and junior faculty will include four, 90-minute research seminars lead by accomplished scholars and participation in a paper development session. A maximum of 12 individuals will be accepted with preference given to individuals accepted to participate in the 2020 conference given its cancellation. If you are interested in participating, contact Danny Holt ([dholt@lsu.edu](mailto:dholt@lsu.edu)) for application information. – **UPDATED initiative!**

**FERC 2021 Organizing Team:**

Eric Clinton, Dublin City University, IRELAND, [eric.clinton@dcu.ie](mailto:eric.clinton@dcu.ie)  
Josh Daspit, Texas State University, USA, [josh.daspit@txstate.edu](mailto:josh.daspit@txstate.edu)  
Clay Dibrell, University of Mississippi, USA, [cdibrell@bus.olemiss.edu](mailto:cdibrell@bus.olemiss.edu)  
Danny Holt, Louisiana State University, USA, [dholt@lsu.edu](mailto:dholt@lsu.edu)  
Luis Diaz Matajira, Universidad de los Andes, COLOMBIA, [luidiaz@uniandes.edu.co](mailto:luidiaz@uniandes.edu.co)  
Don Neubaum, Florida Atlantic University, USA, [dneubaum@fau.edu](mailto:dneubaum@fau.edu)  
Pramodita Sharma, University of Vermont, USA, [pramodita.sharma@uvm.edu](mailto:pramodita.sharma@uvm.edu)



16<sup>th</sup> Edition and 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual  
**Family Enterprise Research Conference (FERC)**  
**May 24 - 27, 2021**

**5&5 VIRTUAL RESEARCH ABSTRACTS  
CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

The poster presentations have remained a popular feature at FERC meetings! This year, the “5&5” initiative is designed to present ideas and receive feedback in a manner similar to a poster session.

To be considered, an abstract should be submitted. (See submission details below.) After peer review, the author(s) of selected abstracts will be invited to create a video that summarizes their project. The video is limited to a maximum of 5 slides presented in 5 minutes (hence “5&5”)! Videos will also be reviewed prior to final acceptance. (Further details on the video and timeline will be provided via email.)

Videos will be posted prior to and during the conference. Conference participants will have the opportunity to asynchronously view and provide feedback on the research summarized in the 5&5 videos.

*Awards will be given for “Best Research Video” (to author[s] for top-quality research and video) and “Best Research Feedback” (to conference participant[s] for the best feedback offered on videos based on quality and quantity of feedback).*

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:**

- Submit a research summary that includes:
  - A **1-page, double-spaced abstract** that includes the research question(s), theory and method (as applicable), key finding(s), and implications of your research project; and
  - Tables and/or figures (if needed) on separate pages following the abstract.
- Please use Times New Roman, 12-point font and 1-inch margins throughout.
- Combine the 1-page abstract and tables/figures (if included) into a single PDF document for submission. No submission should exceed a total of 5 pages (including the 1-page abstract and any additional tables/figures).
- Submissions are accepted in English or Spanish.
- The submission deadline is **March 1, 2021**, and a submission should be uploaded as 1 PDF file at <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ferc2021>.

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS (for all types of submissions):**

1. Go to <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ferc2021>
2. Select “Create an account,” complete steps, and receive confirmation email (if not already a member of EasyChair)
3. Follow link in registration email to finalize account setup (note: insert your personal information and your university/organization; create login and password)
4. Sign-in and make submission (you may need to re-click the link in Step 1 after signing-in)

If you have questions, please contact Eric Clinton ([eric.clinton@dcu.ie](mailto:eric.clinton@dcu.ie)),  
Josh Daspit ([josh.daspit@txstate.edu](mailto:josh.daspit@txstate.edu)), Clay Dibrell ([cdibrell@bus.olemiss.edu](mailto:cdibrell@bus.olemiss.edu)), or  
Luis Diaz Matajira ([luidiaz@uniandes.edu.co](mailto:luidiaz@uniandes.edu.co)).



16<sup>th</sup> Edition and 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual  
**Family Enterprise Research Conference (FERC)**  
**May 24 - 27, 2021**

**VIRTUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP PROPOSALS  
CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

Consistent with its mission to increase the quality and rigor of family business research, FERC is pleased to announce that proposals are being accepted for virtual professional development workshop (VPDW) sessions. Patterned after the highly successful and valuable VPDW sessions held at the Academy of Management annual meeting, FERC will set aside a limited number of **live sessions** devoted to the professional development of family business scholars.

Proposed VPDWs should benefit family business scholars regardless of their career stage. Proposals for sessions that teach new skills and/or provide unique developmental experiences are encouraged. VPDWs are not meant to substitute for the conference's "5&5" research presentations. Instead, VPDWs should be innovative in their content and structure, explore cutting-edge issues, and encourage synchronous (as well as potentially on-going) interactions among participants.

A wide variety of session structures are possible, including workshops, breakout sessions, tutorials, or panels. Those who submit should ensure that the structure of the session aligns with the proposed objectives (e.g., how ideas, knowledge, and relationships among the participants are best fostered). Sessions that engage attendees, develop relevant skills/insights, and facilitate continued exchanges among participants after the session are especially encouraged.

Submitters should be aware that each VPDW session will be: (1) delivered synchronously (although portions of the VPDW could be pre-recorded, if necessary) and (2) recorded for attendees to view later. Proposals will be evaluated based on several criteria, including the anticipated benefit to attendees, the number of participants likely to be interested in the topic, and the quality of the plan for creating an interactive and engaging session.

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:**

- A submission document (submitted as a single PDF file) must include the following information:
  - A one-page vita from the PDW organizer and from all other participants responsible for the content and delivery of the PDW session.
  - A brief (**no more than 5-page, double-spaced**) proposal that details: (1) the topic and its importance to family business scholars, (2) the amount of time the session will require and the structure/format/timeline of the session (i.e., how will the time be used), and (3) the intended objectives of the session.
- The submission deadline is **March 1, 2021**, and a submission should be uploaded as 1 PDF file at <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ferc2021>. (See page 3 for submission instructions.)

If you have questions, or would like to discuss your workshop idea, please contact Don Neubaum ([dneubaum@fau.edu](mailto:dneubaum@fau.edu)).



16<sup>th</sup> Edition and 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual  
**Family Enterprise Research Conference (FERC)**  
**May 24 - 27, 2021**

**VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM OR PANEL DISCUSSION PROPOSALS  
CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

Consistent with its mission to increase the quality and rigor of family business research, FERC is pleased to announce that proposals are being accepted for virtual symposia and panel discussions. During FERC 2021, a limited number of virtual sessions will be devoted to relevant topics conveyed in the symposium and panel-discussion formats.

A virtual symposium or panel discussion typically features a series of integrated discussions or presentations addressing a unified topic of interest to family business scholars. A session may, for example, consist of invited speakers and could include time for discussions among the panel participants and with attendees. Proposed virtual symposia and panels may benefit family business researchers, teachers, and/or practitioners. Proposals for sessions that include emerging or novel topics (or scholars outside the traditional family business domain) are particularly encouraged. Symposia and panel discussions are not meant to substitute for the conference's "5&5" research presentations. Instead, these sessions should be innovative in their content and structure, explore cutting-edge issues, and encourage synchronous (as well as potentially on-going) interactions among participants.

A wide variety of session structures are possible. Those who submit should strongly consider the structure of the session and think about how ideas, knowledge, and relationships among the virtual participants are best fostered. Sessions that engage attendees, develop relevant skills/insights, and facilitate continued exchanges among participants after the session are especially encouraged.

Those who submit should be aware that each virtual symposium or panel discussion session will be: (1) delivered synchronously (although portions of the session could be pre-recorded, if necessary) and (2) recorded for attendees to view later. Proposals will be evaluated based on several criteria, including the anticipated benefit to attendees, the number of participants likely to be interested in the topic, and the quality of the plan for creating an interactive and engaging session.

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:**

- A submission document (submitted as a single PDF file) must include the following information:
  - A one-page vita from the organizer and from all other participants responsible for the content and delivery of the session.
  - A brief (**no more than 3-page, double-spaced**) proposal that details: (1) the title of the session, (2) the topic and its importance to family business scholars, (3) a description of how the gaps in current research/practice will be addressed during the symposium or panel discussion, and (4) how much time the session will require and the structure/format/timeline of the session (i.e., how will the time be used).
- The submission deadline is **March 1, 2021**, and a submission should be uploaded as 1 PDF file at <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ferc2021>. (See page 3 for submission instructions.)

If you have questions, or would like to discuss your symposium idea, please contact Don Neubaum ([dneubaum@fau.edu](mailto:dneubaum@fau.edu)).



16<sup>th</sup> Edition and 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual  
**Family Enterprise Research Conference (FERC)**  
**May 24 - 27, 2021**

**3&3 PRACTICAL INSIGHTS PROPOSALS  
CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

With an aim to build usable knowledge and disseminate the findings of theoretically grounded, empirically rigorous family business research, FERC is pleased to announce this NEW **3&3** initiative!

Any author(s) interested in disseminating the practical insights of their published research to educators and practitioners by participating in a brief interview (no more than **3 minutes**) to be conducted by the professionals at the **Family Enterprise Foundation (FEF)** may submit a proposal highlighting the practical insights of their scholarly work that was published in a peer-reviewed journal no earlier than January 1, 2015.

Each proposal will be reviewed by a panel of family business owners, advisors, and educators.

Selected authors will be invited for short video interviews by **April 1, 2021**. The interview videos will be released at FERC 2021 and distributed by FEF and FERC.

This 3&3 initiative will include a submitted proposal of no more than *3 pages* and, upon acceptance, a final video interview no longer than *3 minutes*.

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:**

- A submission document (submitted as a single PDF file with no more than **3 pages** that are double-spaced) must include the following information:
  - research question or problem;
  - research methods used, including theoretical foundation used, sample studied, and data analytic techniques used;
  - practical implications listed separately in bullet format for family business owners and managers, family business advisors, and/or family business educators;
  - full citation of the published paper; and
  - for papers with multiple authors, indicate which author(s) will conduct the interview if the proposal is selected by the review panel.
- The submission deadline is **March 1, 2021**, and a submission should be uploaded as 1 PDF file at <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=ferc2021>. (See page 3 for submission instructions.)

If you have questions, please contact Pramodita Sharma ([pramodita.sharma@uvm.edu](mailto:pramodita.sharma@uvm.edu)).