



**15<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**Family Enterprise Research Conference**  
**(FERC)**

**Role of Family Firms in Social &  
Sustainable Innovation**

**May 30 – June 2, 2019**  
**Grossman School of Business**  
**University of Vermont**  
**Burlington, VT, USA**

*Please note – BCERC is June 5-9th in Boston @ Babson –  
A pleasant 3 - 4hour drive from Burlington, VT*

**Submission Deadline**  
**January 31, 2019**

(for Doctoral & Junior Faculty Research Seminar,  
PDWs, and Poster Sessions)

Notification of Acceptance  
**March 15, 2019**

## Call for Submissions

Established in 2005, FERC is dedicated to developing a community of scholars interested in conducting research to further our understanding of family enterprises and creating usable knowledge in this field. The goals of FERC include:

- **Building usable knowledge** on family enterprises;
- **Challenging scholars** to enhance the rigor, relevance, and reach of research; and
- **Creating partnerships** among and between scholars and practitioners focused on family business issues.

The 2019 conference will focus on the role of family firms in social and sustainable innovation. In its 1987 report entitled *Our Common Future*, the World Commission on Environment and Development defined sustainability as the “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” This definition places family enterprises as natural conduits to carry on this global mission as transgenerational equity lies at the core of these enterprises.

This commitment affects and is affected by organizational goals, strategies, corporate and family governance, human resource management, and virtually every sub-field of business and management. Considering the importance of social and sustainable innovation for family enterprises, surprisingly little is known about social entrepreneurship, sustainability strategies and practices of these enterprises. This conference aims to explore and discuss related issues.

FIVE types of submissions are invited for FERC 2019:

1. Poster Sessions – a highly popular FERC staple!
2. Research Seminar for Doctoral Students & Junior Faculty **NEW initiative!**  
This exclusive seminar will include a paper development workshop and four, 90-minute research seminars lead by well-renowned scholars. A maximum of 12 individuals will be accepted.
3. Paper Development Workshop **NEW initiative!**
4. Professional Development Workshops **NEW initiative!**
5. Lifetime Influence & Achievement Award Nominations **Due Date October 15, 2018**

**Burlington, Vermont** – A family friendly place! Home to Ben & Jerry’s ice cream, the von Trapp family of the ‘Sound of Music’ fame, Shelburne Farms, Shelburne Museum, Burton Snowboards, Keurig Green Mountain Coffee, Dealer.com, MyWebGrocer, and much more! Lots of hiking, biking, & water activities.

A two-hour drive from Montreal! A vibrant international airport too!

Opening Reception will be on the ‘Spirit of Ethan Allan’ – A Sunset Cruise on Lake Champlain

**Conference Overview** (See detailed submission guidelines online):

<b><u>Scheduled Date</u></b>	<b><u>Program Activity and Chair(s)</u></b>			
Thursday, May 30, 2019	<b>Research Seminar for Doctoral Students &amp; Junior Faculty</b> <b>(Limited to 12 attendees; Separate registration applies for this day)</b>  Danny Holt, Mississippi State University, USA <a href="mailto:daniel.holt@msstate.edu">daniel.holt@msstate.edu</a>			
Friday, May 31, 2019	<b>Paper Development Workshop &amp; Professional Development Workshops (PDWs)</b>  Don Neubaum, Florida Atlantic University, USA <a href="mailto:dneubaum@fau.edu">dneubaum@fau.edu</a>			
Saturday, June 1, 2019	<b>Poster Sessions &amp; Keynote Presentations</b>  Eric Clinton, DCU Business School, Ireland <a href="mailto:eric.clinton@dcu.ie">eric.clinton@dcu.ie</a>	  Josh Daspit, Texas State University, USA <a href="mailto:josh.daspit@txstate.edu">josh.daspit@txstate.edu</a>	  Luis Diaz-Matajira, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia <a href="mailto:luidiaz@uniandes.edu.co">luidiaz@uniandes.edu.co</a>	
Sunday, June 2, 2019	<b>Panel Sessions</b>  Tom Lumpkin, University of Oklahoma, USA <a href="mailto:lumpkin@ou.edu">lumpkin@ou.edu</a>			  Pramodita Sharma, University of Vermont, USA <a href="mailto:psharma@bsad.uvm.edu">psharma@bsad.uvm.edu</a>

#### **CONFIRMED PANELISTS:**

Sophie Bacq, Northeastern University, USA	Rob Nason, Concordia University, CANADA
Nadine Kammerlander, WHU, GERMANY	Tyge Payne, Texas Tech University, USA
Josip Kotlar, Lancaster University, UK	Trent Williams, Indiana University, USA
Tom Lumpkin, University of Oklahoma, USA	Thomas Zellweger, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland

#### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:**

- 1) Poster Sessions in English or Spanish** (on June 1<sup>st</sup>)
  - No more than five pages, excluding references and tables (Microsoft Word document).
  - Double-spaced with one-inch margins in 12-point font, using APA (6<sup>th</sup> edition) for references.
  - Submitted abstracts must include the following: purpose of the project, gap in the literature, importance of addressing the gap, manner in which this project addresses the gap in the literature, methodology used in this research project, summary of the results, implications of the findings for research and practice.
- 2) Paper Development Workshop in English** (on May 31<sup>st</sup>)

A limited number of papers/authors will be eligible to participate in a paper development workshop. The most promising full-length manuscripts (maximum of 35 pages all-inclusive) submitted to the conference will be considered for this session. Only papers that have not been accepted for publication elsewhere will be considered. The submitting author must be the primary author (not a second, third, etc.) of the paper and must be willing to provide developmental feedback for one other paper/author as part of this session. Please consider submitting the best paper that you are moving toward publication.

All submissions will be blind reviewed by members of the FERC 2019 Review Board.  
Accepted abstracts and papers will be presented in poster format at the FERC conference.

**Submit all abstracts and full-length manuscripts at <https://openconf.org/ferc/>**

*Please see separate calls for*

Research Seminar for Doctoral Students & Junior Faculty;  
Professional Development Workshops; and Lifetime Influence & Achievement Awards.

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**  
**FERC Research Seminar**  
**for**  
**Doctoral Students & Junior Faculty**

**Schedule.** This exclusive seminar will be held at the Grossman School of Business, University of Vermont, with a tentative schedule as follows:

Thursday, 30 May	8:30 am - 5:30 pm	(Research Seminars 1 – 4)
Friday, 1 June	8:30 am - 10:00 am	(Paper Development Session)

**Preparation and Seminar Requirements.** Different from other doctoral or junior faculty consortia you may have attended, the FERC Research Seminar will be a reading-intensive seminar where renowned scholars from family business will lead sessions that are much like traditional doctoral seminars. A list of readings for each seminar session will be provided with acceptance letters.

To capitalize on this opportunity, students must complete the readings ahead of time. In the weeks preceding this one-day intensive session, students will read a set of articles and prepare notes of their reading. **The notes will consist of brief article summaries and at least two discussion questions per session.** This will ensure the readings are completed in advance. The notes and questions submitted will be used to formulate discussion questions and other course planning. Please plan to submit reading notes and discussion questions electronically as follows:

May 9, 2019, 5 PM EDT	Session 1 and 2 Notes
May 16, 2019, 5 PM EDT	Session 3 and 4 Notes

**Seminar Leaders.** Family business scholars who will be leading sessions include:

Jim Chrisman, Mississippi State University, USA  
Jim Combs, University of Central Florida, USA  
Isabelle Le Breton-Miller, HEC Montreal, Canada  
Mattias Nordqvist, Jönköping University, Sweden

Mike Hitt, Texas Christian Univ. & Texas A&M Univ., USA  
Peter Jaskiewicz, University of Ottawa, Canada  
Danny Miller, HEC Montreal, Canada  
Thomas Zellweger, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland

**Manuscript for Paper Development Session.** Participants will also participate in a paper development session where each student will be paired with a leading scholar. Thus, each participant must submit a working paper (either PDF or Word format) that is focused on family business. You should be the primary author (not a second or third) and you should consider submitting the best paper that you are moving toward publication.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The paper must be a full manuscript but NOT (a) exceed 35 pages (all inclusive), or (b) be an accepted-for-publication or published manuscript. The working paper is a key requirement for admission. If you would like this paper to be considered for presentation during a conference poster session, it must be submitted through the traditional conference submission process as well (see call for papers).

**SUBMISSION PROCESS:**

A submission package (submitted as a single PDF file) must include the following three documents and should be sent via an e-mail attachment in PDF format to daniel.holt@msstate.edu:

- Cover page with following information:  
Personal information to include: (a) Name; (b) Email address; and, (c) Best contact phone number  
University:  
Department:  
Primary Advisor:  
Doctoral degree – completed in / expected competition: \_\_\_\_\_ (year)  
Demographics (optional): \_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_ Male Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_
- A 600-900 words essay indicating why you would like to be involved and family business topics of most interest to you.
- A full-length manuscript (max 35 pages all-inclusive) that has not been accepted for publication. Submitting author must be the primary author (not a second or third etc.). Consider (a) submitting the best paper that you are moving toward publication and (b) submitting it for presentation during a conference poster session through the traditional conference submission process (see call for papers).

**Cost:** \$125 USD for the Research Seminar. This covers all meals including dinner with seminar leaders and paper development workshop mentors. Students are responsible for their own travel and accommodations. Registration will be available through the FERC 2019 website.

## SEMINAR SESSIONS

### Research Seminar 1: Strategic behavior in family firms

JIM CHRISMAN  
Mississippi State University, USA

MIKE HITT  
Texas Christian Univ. & Texas A&M Univ. USA

#### *Readings* (two other readings expected)

Chrisman, J.J., & Patel, P.C. (2012). Variations in R&D investments of family and non-family firms: Behavioral agency and myopic loss aversion perspectives. *Academy of Management Journal*, 55, 976-997.

Patel, P.C., & Chrisman, J.J. (2014). Risk abatement as a strategy for R&D investments in family firms. *Strategic Management Journal*, 35, 617-627.

### Research Seminar 2: Understanding the Intersection between Family and Entrepreneurship

MATTIAS NORDQVIST  
Jönköping University, SWEDEN

THOMAS ZELLWEGER  
University of St. Gallen, SWITZERLAND

#### *Readings*

Aldrich, H. E., & Cliff, J. E. (2003). The pervasive effects of family on entrepreneurship: Toward a family embeddedness perspective. *Journal of Business Venturing*, 18(5), 573-596.

Nordqvist, M., Wennberg, K., & Bau, M. Hellerstedt, K. (2013). An entrepreneurial process perspective on succession in family firms. *Small Business Economics*, 40(4), 1087-1122.

Bird, M., & Zellweger, T. (2018). Relational embeddedness and firm growth: Comparing spousal and sibling entrepreneurs. *Organization Science*, 29(2), 264-283.

Zellweger, T. M., Nason, R. S., & Nordqvist, M. (2012). From longevity of firms to transgenerational entrepreneurship of families: Introducing family entrepreneurial orientation. *Family Business Review*, 25(2), 136-155.

### Research Seminar 3: A critical perspective on family business research

ISABELLE LE BRETON-MILLER  
HEC Montreal, CANADA

DANNY MILLER  
HEC Montreal, CANADA

#### *Readings*

Miller, D. & Le Breton-Miller, I. (2006). Family governance and firm performance: Agency, stewardship and capabilities, *Family Business Review*, 19(1), 73-87.

Le Breton-Miller, I. & Miller, D. (2018). Looking back at and forward from: "Family governance and firm performance: agency, stewardship and capabilities." *Family Business Review*, 31(2), 229-237.

Le Breton-Miller, I. & Miller, D. (2018). Beyond the firm: Business families as entrepreneurs. *Entrepreneurship Theory & Practice*, 42(4), 527-536.

Miller, D. & Le Breton-Miller, I. (2014). Deconstructing socioemotional wealth, *Entrepreneurship Theory & Practice*, 38(4), 713-720.

### Research Seminar 4: Understanding the roles of families in family business

JIM COMBS  
University of Central Florida, USA

PETER JASKIEWICS,  
University of Ottawa, CANADA

#### *Readings*

Jaskiewicz, P., Combs, J. G., Shanine, K. K., & Kacmar, K. M. (2017). Introducing the family: A review of family science with implications for management research. *Academy of Management Annals*, 11(1), 309-341.

Jaskiewicz, P., & Dyer, W. G. (2017). Addressing the elephant in the room: Disentangling family heterogeneity to advance family business research. *Family Business Review*, 111-118.

Olson, D. H., Sprenkle, D. H., & Russell, C. S. (1979). Circumplex model of marital and family systems: I. Cohesion and adaptability dimensions, family types, and clinical applications. *Family Process*, 18(1), 3-28.

Silverstein, M., & Bengtson, V. L. (1997). Intergenerational solidarity and the structure of adult child-parent relationships in American families. *American Journal of Sociology*, 103, 429-460.

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

### FERC Professional Development Workshops

Consistent with its mission to increase the quality and rigor of family business research, the Family Enterprise Research Conference (FERC) is pleased to announce it will begin accepting NEW submissions in the form of professional development workshops (PDW). Patterned after the highly successful and valuable PDWs sessions held at the Academy of Management annual meeting, FERC will set aside a limited number of sessions (either 90 or 120 minutes) devoted to the professional development of family business scholars.

Proposed PDWs should benefit family business scholars regardless of their career stage. Proposals for sessions which teach new skills or provide unique developmental experiences are encouraged. PDWs are not meant to substitute for the conference's traditional research/poster sessions. Instead, PDWs should be innovative in their content and structure, explore cutting edge issues, and encourage interactions among participants that are not normally part of the current FERC experience.

A wide variety of session structures are possible, including workshops, breakout sessions, tutorials, or panels. Submitters should strongly consider the structure of the session and think about how ideas, knowledge, and relationships among the participants are best fostered. Sessions that engage attendees, facilitate exchange, and encourage continued interaction among participants (beyond the conference) are especially encouraged.

Proposals will be evaluated based on several criteria, including the anticipated benefit to attendees, the number of attendees likely to be interested in the topic, and the quality of the plan for creating an interactive and engaging session.

#### **SUBMISSION PROCESS:**

A submission package (submitted as a single PDF file) must include the following information:

1. A one-page vita from the PDW organizer(s) and from all other participants responsible for the content and delivery of the PDW session.
2. A brief overview (no more than five page, double-spaced proposal) that details: (1) the topic and its importance to family business scholars; (2) the structure/format/timeline of the session (i.e., how will the time be used), (3) the intended objectives of the session. Any special requests in terms of set-up, equipment, etc. should be included in the proposal.

Submission of Professional Development Workshop proposals should be emailed directly to Donald Neubaum at [dneubaum@fau.edu](mailto:dneubaum@fau.edu).