Save the Date and Call for Papers

21th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference on Entrepreneurship and Innovation
October 5th - 6th, 2017, University of Wuppertal (Germany)

30 years of FGF

The FGF celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2017. Today, the FGF is the leading academic association about entrepreneurship, innovation and SMEs in the DACH-region. It has put entrepreneurship and innovation on the agenda of most universities. The annual G-Forum Conference, organized by the FGF, has developed into the largest conference on Entrepreneurship, Innovation and SMEs in the DACH-region.

Annual Conference 2017 (http://www.g-forum.de)

The G-Forum is the first and largest entrepreneurship and innovation conference in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.

The 21th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference on Entrepreneurship, Innovation and SMEs (G-Forum) will be held in Wuppertal from October 5th to 6th, 2017. Lead partner is the University of Wuppertal. Congress President is Prof. Dr. Christine K. Volkmann, Chair of Entrepreneurship and Economic Development & UNESCO-Chair of Entrepreneurship and Intercultural Management.

The conference program will be enriched by renowned keynote speakers. Confirmed keynote speakers are Prof. Dr. Dr. Ann-Kristin Achleitner, Professor of Entrepreneurial Finance and scientific co-director of the Center for Entrepreneurial and Financial Studies at TUM School of Management, Technical University of Munich, Prof. David B. Audretsch, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor and Ameritech Chair of Economic Development, Director at the Institute for Development Strategies, School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University Bloomington, Prof. Simon C. Parker, Ph.D., Professor of Entrepreneurship and Director of the Entrepreneurship Cross Enterprise Centre at the Ivey Business School, London, Ontario, Canada, as well as Dr. Monika Herzig, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University Bloomington.

Theme

The theme of the 2017 conference in Wuppertal is:

“Sustainable Entrepreneurial Ecosystems: How do contextual factors support and constrain sustainable entrepreneurial activities in a regional ecosystem?”

For decades, economic development and environmental protection have been viewed as a zero-sum game of social wealth (Cohen & Winn 2004). Recently, sustainable entrepreneurship has gained prominence as entrepreneurs increasingly place sustainability rather than profitability at the core of their business models. Sustainable entrepreneurship is primarily concerned with economic, social and environmental consequences, thereby creating a win-win situation for the economic development and environmental protection. Nevertheless, the research field of sustainable entrepreneurship is still in its infancy. A lack of research can be observed in particular with regard to the contextual factors of sustainable entrepreneurship (Acs, Autio & Szerb 2014). In this context an entrepreneurial ecosystem
can be defined as “a dynamic community of interdependent actors (entrepreneurs, suppliers, buyers, governments etc.) and system-level institutional, informational and socioeconomic contexts” (Audretsch & Belitski, 2016, p. 4). Entrepreneurial ecosystems play an important role for the foundation and growth of enterprises (Isenberg 2010). However, little is known about how ecosystems have to be composed in order to benefit sustainable, entrepreneurial activities. Several interesting questions can be derived: How do stakeholders facilitate the development of sustainable enterprises? How do ecological, economic and social aspects connected in entrepreneurial activities? How does the digitalization influence the development of sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystems? What role does financing play for the creation of sustainable ecosystems? How does sustainable entrepreneurship influence firm performance? Findings in form of empirical and theoretical contributions regarding these and other questions in the context of “sustainable entrepreneurship” are not only relevant for the academic field of entrepreneurship but also for management practice.

Science and practice

To enhance the exchange between science and practice we specifically ask for submissions "from both worlds”. We offer topic-specific sessions that focus on submissions either from science or practice. There are two independent review processes in order to meet the different requirements for the submissions from both realms.

List of topics

Papers from all areas of family business, entrepreneurship, innovation and neighboring disciplines are welcome. The list of topics includes (but is not limited to):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Business</th>
<th>Entrepreneurship &amp; Management</th>
<th>Entrepreneurship Education</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Family Enterprises</td>
<td>• Strategic Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>• Entrepreneurship Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Succession Planning and Management</td>
<td>• Effectuation and Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>• Entrepreneurship Education at Schools</td>
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<td>• SMEs</td>
<td>• Marketing and Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>• Entrepreneurship Education at Universities</td>
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<td>• Organization and Human Resources for Young Firms</td>
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<tr>
<th>Innovation &amp; Technology</th>
<th>Entrepreneurial Finance</th>
<th>Interdisciplinary Approaches</th>
<th>Forms of Entrepreneurship</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Business Model Innovation</td>
<td>• Finance and Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>• Economics and Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>• Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and Entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>• Entrepreneurship and Innovation Policy</td>
<td>• Startup Financing</td>
<td>• Geography and Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>• Sustainable and Social Entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>• Innovation Management</td>
<td>• Growth Financing</td>
<td>• Psychology and Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>• Corporate Entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>• Technology Transfer</td>
<td>• Private Equity and Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>• Sociology and Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>• International Entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>• Trends and Hypes</td>
<td>• Crowdfunding</td>
<td>• Ethics and Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>• Women Entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>• Technology Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>• Foundations</td>
<td>• Entrepreneurship Policy</td>
<td>• Academic Entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>• B Lab Certification</td>
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<td>• Creative and Cultural Entrepreneurship</td>
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Contributions from practice and science, which cannot be attributed to any of these areas, may be submitted in an "open topic session".
Languages
The conference languages are English and German.

Submission types

Full paper submissions
It is possible to submit full papers to the G-Forum. Authors of full paper submissions receive a developmental review from a member of the editorial board of the conference.

Abstract submissions
It is also possible to submit an abstract (not more than 1,000 words).

Please submit your full papers and/or abstract in two versions (with author and without author) as a pdf-document until May 24th, 2017 via email to submission-gforum2017@fgf-ev.de.

Submission details (for full papers and abstracts)

- The conference is open for both research- and practice-oriented submissions. Please state in your submission email to which category your paper belongs.
- Please submit a blinded manuscript (a manuscript without author names) and a manuscript with full author names and correspondence addresses.
- Submissions can be either in English or German.
- Submissions of scientific contributions should ideally include the following subsections:
  - Problem (research gap / objective)
  - Theoretical foundation
  - Methodology / empirical research context
  - Results
  - Implications for entrepreneurship research and practice
- Submissions of practical contributions should at least include a clear starting point, objective, relevant results and implications for practice.

Review process
The selection of full papers and abstracts to be presented at the conference is based on a double-blind review process. Authors of full paper submissions receive a developmental review. Practice- and research-oriented submissions will undergo a different review process. The G-Forum review board is responsible for the review process. Notification of acceptance will be submitted in July 2017.

Awards
Various subject areas of the FGF will be awarded. The details of the awards will be announced shortly. Detailed information can then be found on the FGF website http://www.g-forum.de. We also recommend following up on the news in our FGF-Newsletter.

Doctoral Colloquium
A doctoral colloquium will be held on October 4th, 2017 (the day before the main conference starts).
Experienced entrepreneurship scholars will give an introduction to leading entrepreneurship and innovation journals and will discuss how to publish in these outlets.
In addition, doctoral students will have the possibility to present their ongoing research projects and gain valuable feedback from experienced entrepreneurship and innovation scholars. To present your research project, please send us a two-page abstract including:

- topic
- research question(s)
- theory
- method
- and (if available) first results

Please send your registration for the doctoral colloquium and (if applicable) your two-page abstract to Ulrich Knaup (knaup@fgf-ev.de). The deadline is August 30th, 2017.

Participation in the doctoral colloquium is linked to the registration for the main conference.

**Conference Fees**

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<th>Membership Description</th>
<th>Price €</th>
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<tr>
<td>Members of FGF</td>
<td>310,--</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-members of FGF including a one year FGF membership *</td>
<td>390,--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-members of FGF without a one year FGF membership</td>
<td>390,--</td>
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* The membership extends automatically by one year on September 30th, 2018 but can be cancelled three months before expiry. The annual membership fee is € 120.

The conference fees include the conference sessions, conference materials, all meals during the conference (coffee and lunch breaks) and participation in the conference dinner.

**Students**

Bachelor and Master students can apply for a reduced conference fee of € 100. Applications for student tickets should include a copy of the student ID. Please send the application to knaup@fgf-ev.de. The decision will be communicated in September via email.

**Important dates**

**Doctoral Colloquium**

*October 4th, 2017*

Application deadline: **August 30th, 2017** (email to knaup@fgf-ev.de)

Notification of acceptance: September 15th, 2017

**Conference**

Internet: [http://www.g-forum.de](http://www.g-forum.de)

*October 5th and October 6th, 2017*

Submission of abstracts and full papers until **May 24th, 2017**, via email: submission-gforum2017@fgf-ev.de; notification of acceptance: end of July, 2017

Registration deadline: **September 25th, 2017**

**Accommodation**

Hotels close to the conference venue (University of Wuppertal) are reserved in various price ranges. Information and reservation forms will be made available on our conference homepage.

**We look forward to welcoming you in Wuppertal!**
Responsible for the conference program

Prof. Dr. Jörn Block
FGF President and Chair of Management
University of Trier

Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte
Chair of Industrial Organisation and Innovation
University of Wuppertal

Prof. Dr. Ulrich Braukmann
Chair of Economic Pedagogy, Pedagogy of Entrepreneurship, Didactics of Entrepreneurship
Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovations Research
University of Wuppertal

Prof. Dr. Vivien Procher
Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Entrepreneurial Change
Jackstädt Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Research
University of Wuppertal

Prof. Dr. Christian Rupietta
Assistant Professor of Management and Innovation
Jackstädt Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Research
University of Wuppertal

Prof. Dr. Uwe Schneidewind
President and Academic Executive Director
Professor of Sustainable Transition Management
Wuppertal Institute
University of Wuppertal

Prof. Dr. Diemo Urbig
Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Entrepreneurial Change
Jackstädt Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Research
University of Wuppertal

Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann
Chair of Entrepreneurship and Economic Development & UNESCO-Chair of Entrepreneurship and Intercultural Management
University of Wuppertal

Prof. Dr. Peter Witt
Chair of Technology and Innovation Management
University of Wuppertal

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