

Call for Papers

24th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference on Entrepreneurship, Innovation and SMEs
September 30th – October 02nd, 2020



Annual Conference 2020

The 24th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference on Entrepreneurship, Innovation and SMEs will be held as a virtual event from September 30th to October 02nd, 2020. The leading partner of the FGF e.V. is the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). The conference president is Prof. Dr. Orestis Terzidis, Head of the Institute for Entrepreneurship, Technology Management and Innovation (EnTechnon) and Chair for Entrepreneurship and Technology Management at KIT.

Keynotes

The conference program will be enriched by renowned keynote speakers. Confirmed keynote speaker is, Prof. Dr. **Dimo Dimov** from the University of Bath (UK), one of the most distinguished scientists on start-up topics worldwide. Ms. Theresia Bauer, Minister of Science, Research and Art Baden-Württemberg and a high-ranking representative from the Federal Association of German Startups are also requested.

Theme

The overarching theme of the G-Forum 2020 is:

“Entrepreneurship as Design Science”

Design activities are central to many research fields including engineering, medicine, and information systems. Design science research is a paradigm in which a designer answers questions relevant to human problems via the creation of innovative artifacts, thereby contributing new knowledge to the body of scientific evidence. The designed artifacts are both useful and fundamental in understanding a problem. In supplement to theory building and empirical research, design research is not content to describe, explain, and predict. It also wants to improve the context it is considering. The design science paradigm has been applied to various contexts in management and organizational theory. With the theme of the conference, we want to create an opportunity to explore the possibilities of design science research in entrepreneurship.

Science and practice

To enhance the exchange between science and practice, submissions "from both worlds" are expressly desired. Topic-specific sessions are offered which are either based on submissions from science or practice. There will be two independent review processes to meet the different requirements of submissions from both realms.

Topics

In addition to submissions addressing the guiding theme of the conference, the conference organizers expressly welcome any submission that corresponds to the three main thematic fields of the FGF e.V. These are the topics:

- Entrepreneurship
- Innovation
- SMEs.

In this way, the G-Forum will fulfill its role as a central platform for the scientific community to exchange views on the current state of scientific discussion.

Languages

The conference languages are German and English.

Submission types

It is possible to submit full papers (max. 30 pages excluding bibliography, graphics, tables) to the G-Forum. Authors of full paper submissions will receive a developmental review from members of the G-Forum Review Board and can qualify for a 20-minute presentation plus 10-minute discussion. However, proposals for presentations can also be submitted as an abstract. An abstract should not exceed 1,000 words. Short abstracts will qualify for shorter presentations (10 minutes presentations) or poster presentations.

Please submit your full papers and abstracts as a pdf document in an anonymized form (without author information) until May 10, 2020 (**extended submission deadline June 7th 2020**) via our G-Forum conference tool at <https://www.conftool.com/g-forum2020/index.php?page=login>.

Guidelines for submission (full paper and abstracts)

Research-and practice-oriented papers can be submitted. Please register as a user of the conference tool at <https://www.conftool.com/g-forum2020/index.php?page=login>. Please do not forget to upload your anonymized submission as a PDF document. Submissions are possible in German or English. Submissions of scientific contributions should ideally be structured as follows:

- Problem definition (research gap / objective)
- Theoretical foundation
- Methodology / empirical research context
- Results
- Implications for entrepreneurship research and practice

Submissions of practical contributions should include a clear starting point, objectives, results and implications for practice.

Review process

The selection of full papers and abstracts to be presented at the conference will be based on a double-blind review process. Only full paper submissions will receive a developmental review. The G-Forum review board is responsible for the review process. We will inform the authors on the acceptance of their submissions in mid-July 2020.

Awards

Various subject areas of the FGF will be recognized with awards. These awards will be announced 2020 prior to the conference. Detailed information (tender texts) will be available on the FGF website <http://www.g-forum.de>. We also recommend following the news in our FGF newsletter.

Special issues

There will also be two special issues:

1. Business & Information Systems Engineering (BISE), The International Journal of Wirtschaftsinformatik, „[Digital Entrepreneurship: Opportunities, Challenges, and Impacts](#)“
2. Management Review Quarterly Systematic Literature Reviews, Meta-Analyses, and Replication Studies (MRQ), „[Structured Literature Reviews in Entrepreneurship Research – Taking Stock and Setting the Agenda](#)“

Authors should declare their interest in publishing their research along with their G-Forum submission (extended submission deadline **June 7, 2020**) submitted in our [conferencetool](#) and - assuming acceptance for the virtual G-Forum conference and fit to the special issue - will then be invited to present their paper at a **virtual paper development workshop** with the editors of the special issue at the G-Forum. In this paper development workshop, the special issue editors will provide feedback on early drafts or first paper versions.

Doctoral Colloquium

On the day prior to the conference, Wednesday, September 30th, 2020, we invite interested doctoral students in the field of entrepreneurship, innovation and SMEs to a doctoral colloquium. Experienced entrepreneurship scholars will provide an introduction to leading academic journals and discuss how to publish in these journals. Moreover, doctoral students will have the opportunity to present their ongoing research projects in a developmental workshop atmosphere and to discuss them with experienced scholars. A proposal should contain a two- to three-page description with the following information:

- Topic
- Research question(s)
- Research design
- Hypothesis (hypotheses) and
- (If available) first results and information about questions for the colloquium.

Please send your documents by e-mail with "doctoral colloquium 2020" as the subject directly to Ulrich Knaup (knaup@fgf-ev.de) before July 30th, 2020. Participation in the doctoral colloquium is linked to registration for the main G-Forum conference.

Conference Fees

- Members of FGF: € 310, -
- Non-members of FGF including a one-year FGF membership*: € 390, -
- Non-members of FGF without a one-year FGF membership: € 390, -

* Membership will be renewed automatically after one year (annual membership fee is € 120,-), but can be cancelled three months (September 30th, 2021) before expiration.

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

Students

A limited number of students (no doctoral students and no research associates) will be able to participate in the conference for a fee of € 100, -. Applications (informal request, copy of student ID card) must be sent to the e-mail address knaup@fgf-ev.de. The decision will be communicated by e-mail in September.

Overview of important dates

Doctoral Colloquium

September 30th, 2020

Submission of application with the subject "Doctoral Colloquium" before July 30th, 2020 via e-mail to knaup@fgf-ev.de, notification of acceptance in beginning August, 2020

Conference

October 01st and 02nd, 2020

Submission of abstracts and full papers before May 10th, 2020 via our G-Forum conference tool at <https://www.conftool.com/g-forum2020/index.php?page=login>; notification of acceptance: mid-July/begin August 2020

Registration deadline for participants: September 20th, 2020

Website

The conference website is: <http://www.g-forum.de>.

Accommodation

Hotels close to the conference venue (Karlsruhe Institute for Technology (KIT), Campus South) are available in various price ranges. Please make your hotel reservation early, just before the conference there will be hardly any rooms left. Information about accommodation will be available on our conference website <http://www.g-forum.de>.

The location of the event at KIT, Campus South is easy to reach by Public Transport in 20-25 min from Karlsruhe Main Station (stop "Durlacher Tor / KIT-Campus Süd").

We look forward to welcoming you in Karlsruhe!

Responsible for the conference program

Prof. Dr. Jörn Block
Chair in Management
University of Trier

Prof. Dr. Andreas Kuckertz
President FGF
Chair in Entrepreneurship
University of Hohenheim

Prof. Dr. Orestis Terzidis
Karlsruhe Institute for Technology
Institute for Entrepreneurship,
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Organizer

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Local organization

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Extended submission deadline **Jan 7, 2020**