

Entrepreneurship Research Exemplars Conference

(7/13/2009) -

Participants in the Entrepreneurship Research Exemplars Conference described the conference as being “fantastic”, “memorable”, “excellent” and “historic.” The Entrepreneurship Research Exemplars Conference co-sponsored by the Connecticut Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CCEI) and the Entrepreneurship Division of the Academy of Management was held at the UConn School of Business from May 28th to May 30th, 2009. This was an invited best practices conference for advancing research excellence in entrepreneurship. Over 60 research scholars participated on-site and over 300 bypassed geographic boundaries by participating via live web streaming video.



The Entrepreneurship Research Exemplars Conference included both keynote addresses from Exemplar Scholars including **Howard Aldrich**, University of North Carolina; **Jay Barney**, Fisher College of Business, Ohio State University; **Michael Hitt**, Mays Business School, Texas A&M University; **Duane Ireland**, Mays Business School, Texas A&M University; **Patricia P. McDougall**, Kelley School of Business, Indiana University; and **S. "Venkat" Venkataraman**, The Batten Institute, Darden School of Business, University of Virginia. There were an additional ten top tier journal editor/author panel sessions that focused on best practices for publishing in each featured journal.

It was the intent that both the Keynote Addresses and Editor/Authors Panels serve as a new set of transparent milestones for encouraging and accelerating the successful publishing of top-tier Entrepreneurship research from multi-disciplinary, highly committed scholars. **Brad MacMaster**, Ph.D. student, University of Strathclyde, UK, and adjunct lecturer, University of Waterloo, Canada, noted that “as a PhD student researching entrepreneurship, [Professor Venkataraman’s keynote address] was incredibly valuable... [He] clearly devoted considerable thought to pushing at the frontiers of our knowledge in a way that garners respect.” Another Ph.D. candidate, **Sondos Abdelgawad**, Policy Department, ESADE Business School, Spain, called his experience with the conference “completely transformative” and noted that “the conference extraordinarily succeeded in transferring tacit knowledge about excellent scholarship which helped in clearing up the myth associated with top journals publications.”

All sessions were recorded for future viewing, and are available to all entrepreneurship researchers on both the AoM’s Entrepreneurship Division and University of Connecticut’s CCEI websites. The 300-plus off-site participants representing almost 200 different universities, institutions, and corporations worldwide joined the conference through live web streaming video. Participants included Ph.D. students, professors, deans, researchers and professionals in the field located in over two dozen countries, including Australia, Canada, China, Germany, India, Israel, Korea, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Spain, Sweden, and United Kingdom as well as from numerous locations across the United States.

“I cannot convey to you how blown away I was with all that UConn did to make the conference the historic event I’m sure it will become,” noted Patricia McDougall, Associate Dean of Faculty and Research and the William L. Haeberle Professor of Entrepreneurship, Kelley School of Business at Indiana University. Christopher Hastings, University of St. Thomas adds that he is “hard pressed to think of a conference I have learned more from.” Sankaran Venkataraman, MasterCard Professor of Business Administration and Research Director, The Batten Institute, Darden Graduate School of Business, University of Virginia offers that the conference was a conduit to “provide great leadership to the entrepreneurship field.”

You can download the Conference videos at <http://www.business.uconn.edu/exemplars>.