

## Conference Announcement and Call for Papers

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Emerging Trends in Entrepreneurial Finance Conference

and

### Special Issue of *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*

May 31<sup>st</sup> - June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, Stevens Institute of Technology School of Business, Hoboken, NJ (USA)

Following the success of the first edition, the School of Business at Stevens Institute of Technology in association with the Stevens Venture Center is delighted to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference “*Emerging Trends in Entrepreneurial Finance*”, May 31<sup>st</sup> - June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 at the Lawrence T. Babbio Center, 525 River Street, Hoboken, NJ (USA).

The Conference aims at selecting a **small number** of cutting-edge papers by top scholars in the field of entrepreneurial finance, venture capital and startup financing, crowdfunding and angel investing.

#### FORMAT

The Conference registration desk will open on Wednesday May 30<sup>th</sup> with a cocktail reception from 6 to 8pm. Thursday May 31<sup>st</sup> the conference will begin with a 1 and ½ day of academic sessions. Papers will be given extended presentation and discussion time and no parallel sessions are scheduled to maximize attendance and feedback for authors. The first day will conclude with **Prof. Tatiana Manolova (Bentley University)** distinguished lecture, followed by the gala dinner.

**Prof. Thomas J. Chemmanur (Boston College)** will deliver the keynote speech on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> at the end of the morning presentations.

In the afternoon the conference will host a path-breaking **Industry Roundtable on Initial Coin Offerings**. The recent months have witnessed the meteoric rise of bitcoin prices that has partially fuelled the surge of an Initial Coin Offerings. On one hand, the distributed ledger technology opens up exciting new opportunities to raise funds for both new and established ventures. On the other hand, the risk of bubble-formation, fraud and unintended consequences for investors warrant caution and extended analysis. The Roundtable will tackle these issues with panelists coming from venture capital firms, Fintech companies, investment banks and regulatory authorities.

#### THEMES

In the last few years the emergence of innovative funding sources for new ventures has substantially increased the complexity of the start-up financing eco-system. Business angels, angels groups, crowd-investors, business incubators and accelerators, and the exponential diffusion of Fintech and distributed-ledger technology have replaced or complemented traditional venture capital as a provider of financing to innovative new companies and a catalyst of growth. However, our knowledge of the functioning, interactions and effects of these changes is still limited.

The conference solicits submissions of high-quality, original papers that shed light on the ongoing transformation of entrepreneurial finance as a major research area, with a special emphasis on the role

of Initial Coin Offering (ICO) as an alternative and as of now, unregulated funding option available to startups.

Possible topics include, but are not restricted to:

- 1) Are different sources of financing complements or substitutes?
- 2) Is the Fintech revolution transforming new venture financing?
- 3) Alternative platform-based financial channels
- 4) What are the relationship between new and traditional capital providers?
- 5) Digital business models and the demand for entrepreneurial finance
- 6) Digitization and the geography of entrepreneurial finance
- 7) How new forms of finance and fintech innovations shape entrepreneurial companies
- 8) The changing startups ecosystem and the challenges for regulatory authorities
- 9) ICOs as a new segment of traditional capital markets
- 10) The impact of ICOs on the evolution of crowdfunding and other funding sources

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Tatiana Manolova, Professor of Management, Bentley University, MA, USA.**

**Thomas J. Chemmanur, Professor of Finance and Hillenbrand Distinguished Fellow, Boston College, MA, USA.**

#### AWARDS

The “Chicago Mercantile Exchange” Best Paper Award in the amount of \$ 2,000 will be awarded to the presenter of the best paper.

#### PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY

A set of papers presented at the Conference will be invited for consideration in a Special Issue of Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice by the Guest Editors: Fabio Bertoni, Stefano Bonini, Vincenzo Capizzi, Massimo Colombo, Sophie Manigart and Mike Wright. All selected papers will be blind refereed accordingly with the standards and the policy of the journal.

#### PAPER SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

Please submit your paper in a complete (including author information) and a blind version at (<https://hq.ssrn.com/conference=2018-Entre-Fin-Stevens>) no later than April 16<sup>th</sup>, 11.59PM EST. Papers will be reviewed anonymously and authors will be notified of the decision by April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. The submission fee is 50\$.

Presenting authors are expected to discuss another paper.

Thanks to generous sponsorship from the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, The Hanlon Financial System Center, and UBS, **the conference will be free of charge (including conference package, breaks, meals, gala dinner).**

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

If you want your paper to be considered for publication in the **Special Issue of Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice**, please indicate this in your submission.

Please note that the presentation at the conference does not guarantee acceptance of the paper for publication in the Journal and attending the conference itself is not a precondition for acceptance into the Special Issue.

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Luisa Alemany, ESADE Business School	Hans Landström, Lund University
Elena Beccalli, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	Sophie Manigart, Ghent University
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Alexander Groh, EMLYON Business School	Mike Wright, Imperial College London
Richard Harrison, University of Edinburgh	Andrew Zacharakis, Babson College
Sofia Johan, York University	Simona Zambelli, University of Bologna
Tom Lahti, Hanken School of Economics	Minjie Zhang, University of Wollongong

## CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

Stefano Bonini, Stevens Institute of Technology  
Vincenzo Capizzi, Università del Piemonte Orientale  
Douglas Cumming, York University,  
Sophie Manigart, Ghent University  
Colin Mason, University of Glasgow  
Richard Harrison, University of Edinburgh

## ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The School of Business – located in Hoboken, NJ, directly across the Hudson River from New York City – is an AACSB accredited institution with a special focus on finance and technology. It offers undergraduate, graduate and PhD courses and several of its graduate programs have been ranked among the top 10 in the country. The School hosts the Hanlon Financial Systems Center with two state of the art Financial Systems Labs created to apply systems thinking and related methods to analyze, understand and characterize the behavior of the complex global financial system. The Center is the result of a generous gift by Stevens Trustee and Alumnus, Sean Hanlon, and integrates the latest hardware and software technologies, accessing real-time data and historical data, supporting innovative research into the most common and urgent problems in contemporary finance.



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Further information about the conference and logistics will be made available soon.