

Conference Announcement and Call for Papers

2nd Emerging Trends in Entrepreneurial Finance Conference

and

Special Issue of *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice (TBC)*

May 31st - June 1st, 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 2nd International Conference “*Emerging Trends in Entrepreneurial Finance*”, May 31st - June 1st, 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 30th with a cocktail reception from 6 to 8pm. Thursday May 31st 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 1st 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) Is there a pecking order in approaching investors by new entrepreneurs?
- 2) Are different sources of financing complements or substitutes?
- 3) Is the Fintech revolution transforming new venture financing?
- 4) Is the fundraising process for Fintech startups different?
- 5) What is the role of crowdfunding in the financing of new ventures?
- 6) What are the relationship between new and traditional capital providers?
- 7) Are returns affected by the sources of financing?
- 8) Is regulation keeping up with this changing environment?
- 9) Can ICOs be a new segment of traditional capital markets?
- 10) How will ICO affect the evolution of crowdfunding?

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 (TBC) by the Guest Editors: Sophie Manigart, Ghent University, Stefano Bonini, Stevens Institute of Technology School of Business and Vincenzo Capizzi, University of Piemonte Orientale. 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 March 30th. Papers will be reviewed anonymously and authors will be notified of the decision by April 10th, 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 (TBC)**, please indicate this in your submission email.

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

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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.