

## IFERA 2009 Best Ph.D. Research Proposal Competition International Family Enterprise Research Academy (IFERA)

### PURPOSE

The International Family Enterprise Research Academy (IFERA) is dedicated to facilitating and promoting the advancement of family business research by encouraging sound, scholarly, and rigorous research practices derived from all accepted methods of inquiry and philosophical traditions. The IFERA Best Ph.D. Research Proposal Competition initiative, supported by the Family Business Network International (FBN-I), aims to acknowledge and honour the next generation of family business scholars whose research is deemed to hold significant promise to increase extant knowledge in the broad area of family business.

### AWARD

**€2000** award co-sponsored by FBN International and IFERA.

### WHO SHOULD APPLY?

- PhD students undertaking research at an accredited academic institution
- Students whose studies are within the first 12-15 months of candidature (i.e. expect to complete their dissertation by 2011)
- Students who have registered to attend the 2009 IFERA Doctoral Consortium

### SUBMISSION

Send a brief cover letter stating your submission is for consideration for the IFERA Ph.D. Research Proposal Competition and include the following required materials:

1. Title page including author's name, institution, address, phone and e-mail
2. A detailed summary (max. 20 pages double-spaced in 12 point font) outlining key aspects relevant to the research philosophy employed. In particular, research objectives, leading research question(s), outline of theory driving the research or shown to be potentially developed, relevant literature review, study justification, and other aspects relevant to the accepted by the standards of the research philosophy employed, as well as the refereed journal(s) that will be targeted. Title page, abstract, figures, tables, and references are not counted for page limit purposes.
3. A one-page abstract (single-spaced in 12 point font)
4. Letter of recommendation from your primary Ph.D. supervisor. The letter must also certify that the student has completed all degree requirements except dissertation.
5. Brief Curriculum Vitae

### CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Quality of research question(s)
- Adherence to the best practices of the research philosophy and tradition employed
- Potential significance, impact, and contributions of findings on the family business field

### SUBMISSION DEADLINE

- Deadlines
  - REGISTRATION WITH A ONE PAGE LETTER OF INTEREST: **December 15, 2008**
  - FULL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION PER GUIDELINES ABOVE: **April 1, 2009**
- Submit all required documents electronically to [office@ifera.org](mailto:office@ifera.org)

For questions regarding the IFERA Ph.D. Research Proposal Competition, please visit [www.ifera.org](http://www.ifera.org) or contact Kosmas Smyrnios ([kosmas.smyrnios@rmit.edu.au](mailto:kosmas.smyrnios@rmit.edu.au)) or Sanjay Goel ([sgoel@d.umn.edu](mailto:sgoel@d.umn.edu)).