

# *Revue de l'entrepreneuriat*

## **Special issue on "Entrepreneurship and the sustainability of the family business: facing the risks and adversities of turbulent environments"**

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A new field is emerging at the interface between research into entrepreneurship and family business, which aims to examine the specificity of family business and its unique characteristics. Entrepreneurship is the founding act of family business; and is also the cornerstone of its sustainability, as business growth and strategic renewal are dependent on entrepreneurship in the long-term. Nevertheless, it is often within the family that entrepreneurship originates and the entrepreneurial orientations of its members develop. Thanks to the family unit, countless entrepreneurial ventures have been able to take off and develop long-term sustainability, from one generation to the next (Nordqvist & Zellweger, 2010).

Nowadays, the sustainability of family businesses is a matter of concern, not just because a significant number of these businesses have to deal with the retirement of company managers where a replacement is not always guaranteed (Mellerio, 2009) but also because environments are becoming increasingly turbulent. Natural disasters, terrorism, pandemics, stock market disasters, human errors... The causes of disruption are countless and their effects tend to have an impact well beyond local environments, in our globalized world as it is today. In the context of rapid changes, numerous threats and uncertainty, how can entrepreneurship intervene to enable family businesses to ride out the storm and continue to grow?

This special edition of *Revue de l'entrepreneuriat* aims to explore this question. Authors are invited to make use of works from other fields such as risk management, crisis management, innovation and strategy, and family sociology. The following themes are proposed, however other issues may also be addressed.

- What risks do family businesses face in the long-term and how can entrepreneurship address these risks?
- Under what conditions can family businesses be considered High Reliability Organizations (HRO)?
- How do entrepreneurship and innovation offer channels for strategic renewal for family businesses?
- How can financial risks be addressed through family businesses? How do approaches to risk management in family business support or damage entrepreneurship?
- What are the practices which enable the transmission and maintenance of the entrepreneurial spirit through generations? What are the family and entrepreneurial values which can prepare future generations to cope with increasingly turbulent environments?
- What is the role of entrepreneurial orientation in the strategic regeneration of family businesses and how does this support sustainability?
- Are there characteristics of family businesses which are likely to make them less vulnerable to turbulence and risk compared with non-family businesses? How do family values and cultures contribute to the development of predisposition to resilience?

### **Guidelines for submission of articles**

Authors interested in submitting an article for publication in this special edition must submit their manuscript directly to [soumission@entrepreneuriat.com](mailto:soumission@entrepreneuriat.com) **by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012**. Please

remember to state that the submission is for the special issue on "Entrepreneurship and the sustainability of the family business: facing the risks and adversities of troubled environments". Please visit the *Revue de l'entrepreneuriat* web site for editorial standards (<http://www.entrepreneuriat.com/pole-recherche/revue>).

### **Additional information**

All authors are warmly invited to submit their draft article for presentation during the 4<sup>th</sup> Georges Doriot Conference, due to take place in Montréal (Québec), between 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> May 2012 in conjunction with the 8<sup>th</sup> FERC (Family Enterprise Research Conference). The format of presentation during the conference is an academic poster. Details can be found on the web site (<http://www.journeesgeorgesdoriot.org/>)

For further information concerning this call for papers, contact Lucie Bégin by e-mail at [l.begin@em-normandie.fr](mailto:l.begin@em-normandie.fr)

### **Provisional calendar**

Submission of original manuscripts:	31 <sup>st</sup> August 2012
Return to authors:	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2012
Revised manuscripts:	30 <sup>th</sup> April 2013
Notification of acceptances:	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2013
Publication of special issue:	Autumn 2013