OVERVIEW

We invite paper submissions to the sixth Entrepreneurial Finance and Innovation Conference (EFIC) which will be held on September 18, 19, and 20, 2015 at the International Business School of Brandeis University. The conference is jointly sponsored by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and the Asper Center for Global Entrepreneurship at the International Business School of Brandeis University. Papers submitted to the conference also have the option to be considered for a dual submission with Management Science. Selected papers that opt for dual submission will go through the Management Science reviewing process, and if accepted, be published in an issue of Management Science. For details on the conference please visit the conference website: http://www.brandeis.edu/global/efic/

The aim of this conference is to bring to the forefront issues related to the financing of entrepreneurial firms and small businesses and the financing of innovation. The conference will explore various institutional, legal, and financial sector developments that affect the creation of firms, their rate of success, the dynamism of incumbent firms, and their contribution to innovation and economic development. The conference will focus on understanding the role of entrepreneurs, various intermediaries, institutional investors, and new developments related to the financing of entrepreneurial firms and innovation.

As part of an effort to understand new avenues of financing for entrepreneurs, of special interest would be research focusing on alternative channels of financing for innovation and new firm creation, such as angel financing, crowdfunding (including AngelList syndicates or “circles” on CircleUp), seed funds and venture funds from programs such as YCombinator and Techstars, and the impact of accelerators and other types of training programs on entrepreneurship and innovation. Policy evaluation of recent regulatory changes that have led to the development of such new avenues of entrepreneurial finance and comparison of institutional, legal (especially contractual), and market structures that could foster and spur
further development of policy related to entrepreneurial finance are particularly welcome, including the JOBS Act. Authors of such papers will also have the option to have their papers considered for dual submission with Management Science. In addition, papers presented on such topics that are selected by Management Science or included in an edited volume published by the Kauffman Foundation will be provided a research honorarium of $5,000.

The conference will cover reasonable travel expenses including airfare (up to a maximum of $550) and accommodation for the presenting authors. All papers on the program will be considered for the Asper Best Paper Award for $1000. The deadline for submission is July 12, 2015. However, authors are highly encouraged to submit as soon as their paper is ready for consideration. The organizers will inform authors submitting a paper by end of August about inclusion in the conference program.

While both theoretical and empirical papers using any relevant data source are welcome, submission of papers using microdata (for example, data from crowdfunding platforms, the Kauffman Firm Survey, Census datasets such as the ILBD, LBD, LEHD, LRA and SBO, as well as other microdata such as the Survey of Small Business Finances, Panel Survey of Entrepreneurial Dynamics, and Small Business Economic Trends, and the National Small Business Poll) to analyze any of the above issues are encouraged.

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