

# 6<sup>th</sup> International Family Business Research Forum Program

## Organizing team

**Andrea Calabrò**, STEP Project Global Consortium & IPAG Business School

**Rodrigo Basco**, American University of Sharjah

**Hanoof Abokhodair**, The Business Family House

**Arpita Vyas**, American University of Sharjah



**SHEIKH SAOUD BIN KHALID  
BIN KHALID AL-QASSIMI  
CHAIR IN FAMILY BUSINESS AT AUS**

**AUS**  
American  
University  
of Sharjah



Journal of  
Family Business Strategy



**Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**NEXTGEN FAMILY BUSINESS LEADER'S DAY**  
Venue: Conrad Hotel, Dubai

16:30 – 17:00 pm **Registration:** Collecting name tags & bags

17:00 – 17:30 pm **Welcome & Overview: 6<sup>th</sup> IFBRF and NextGen Family Business Leaders' Day**  
Andrea Calabrò, STEP Project Global Consortium & IPAG Business School

17:30 – 19:00 pm **Panel Discussion:** NextGen Leaders

- **Hanoof Abokhodair**, The Business Family House
- **Rasheed Binzagr**, Business Development Manager of Binzagr Company
- **Haleema Al Owais**, CEO of Sultan Bin Ali Al Owais Real Estate
- **Mohamed Mazen Batterjee**, Co-founder of AUMET & Managing Director of Batterjee Pharma

19:00 – 20:00 pm **Networking**

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**Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**ACADEMICS AND SCHOLARS' DAY**  
Venue: American University of Sharjah, Sharjah

8:30 – 8:45 am **Registration:** Collecting name tags & bags

8:45 – 9:15 am **Welcome & Overview – American University of Sharjah and Academics & Scholars' Day**

- **Andrea Calabrò**, STEP Project Global Consortium & IPAG Business School
- **Rodrigo Basco**, American University of Sharjah
- **Narjess Boubakri**, Dean of SBA - American University of Sharjah

9:15 – 10:45 am **Academic Papers:** Parallel Sessions I & II

**Parallel Session I:** Financial Perspectives in Family Business

**Chairperson:** Ine Umans, Hasselt University

**Location:** Classroom LIB011

- **Paper:** *Post-M&A performance of acquiring family firms: Does the identity of the target matter?* (Georgiadou, Panicker & Hughes)  
**Presenter:** Elena Georgiadou, Loughborough University  
**Discussant:** Oumaima Quidi, ESCA Ecole de Management
- **Paper:** *Indebtedness of Family Businesses in the MENA: Heterogeneity and Generational Differences* (Quiddi & Habba)  
**Presenter:** Oumaima Quidi, ESCA Ecole de Management  
**Discussant:** Jorge Villagrana Gurch, EDEM Business School
- **Paper:** *Guiding The Sustainability Journey: Does 'Familianness' Matter When Opting For Recovery Funds?* (Guarch, Jordá & Escribá Esteve)  
**Presenter:** Jorge Villagrana Guarch, EDEM Business School

**Discussant:** Elena Georgiadou, Loughborough University

**Parallel Session II: Management and Family Business**

**Chairperson:** Lech Suwala, Technical University of Berlin

**Location:** Sheraa Hub Library at AUS

- **Paper:** *The will to live: How the history of the country influences the behavior of the family CEO* (El Hayek Sfeir & Kallmuenzer)  
**Presenter:** Soumaya El Hayek Sfeir, Excelia Business School  
**Discussant:** Elias Hadjielias, Cyprus University of Technology
- **Paper:** *Family business leader and the control of inter-organisational relationships: An embeddedness perspective* (Glyptis, Hadjielias & Christofi)  
**Presenter:** Elias Hadjielias, Cyprus University of Technology  
**Discussant:** Soumaya El Hayek Sfeir, Excelia Business School
- **Paper:** *Religion and Family Business: Does Country Matter?* (Khoja, Jimenez & Singal)  
**Presenter:** Basma Khoja, King Abdulaziz University  
**Discussant:** Rodrigo Basco, American University of Sharjah

11:00 – 12:15 pm **Keynote Speech - Mishal Kanoo**, Chairman of the Kanoo Group

12:30 – 14:00 pm **Academic Papers:** Parallel Sessions III, IV, & V

**Parallel Session III: Context and Family Business**

**Chairperson:** Stefano Amato, IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca

**Location:** Classroom LIB011

- **Paper:** *Digital transformation and Venetian family businesses: the role of action research and collaborative methods* (Colapinto, Coco & Finotto)  
**Presenter:** Cinzia Colapinto, IPAG Business School  
**Discussant:** Lech Suwala, Technical University of Berlin
- **Paper:** *Family business and regional context: theoretical and conceptual thoughts* (Suwala)  
**Presenter:** Lech Suwala, Technical University of Berlin  
**Discussant:** Nik Nik Maheran, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan
- **Paper:** *Catalyzing Economic Growth: The Significance of Family Businesses in Malaysia* (Tehseen, Haider, Hossain, Motaghi, Yusof, Mohd Nor & Maheran)  
**Presenter:** Nik Nik Maheran, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan  
**Discussant:** Cinzia Colapinto, IPAG Business School
- **Paper:** *HILIA: A Premier Family-Owned Silverware Business from the Arab World*. (Khan, Al Bulushi, Al Abri & Lindsay)  
**Presenter:** Valerie Lindsay, Abu Dhabi School of Management  
**Discussant:** Basma Khoja, King Abdulaziz University

**Parallel Session IV: Succession and Legacy**

**Chairperson:** Lucija Mihotić, Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU)

**Location:** Sheraa Hub Library at AUS

- **Paper:** *Splitting of Businesses- A Phenomenon* (Agarwal & Thomas)  
**Presenter:** Shikha Agarwal, XLRI – Xavier School of Management  
**Discussant:** Ine Umans, Hasselt University
- **Paper:** *Expectations pre-succession of founders and successors in family firms: a qualitative study* (Umans)  
**Presenter:** Ine Umans, Hasselt University  
**Discussant:** Josiane Fahed-Sreih, Lebanese American University
- **Paper:** *Legacy: Driving Forces and Desirable Outcomes* (Fahed-Sreih, Sleiman)  
**Presenter:** Josiane Fahed-Sreih, Lebanese American University  
**Discussant:** Shikha Agarwal, XLRI – Xavier School of Management

**Parallel Session V: Female and Family Business**

**Chairperson:** Nadine Kammerlander, WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management

**Location:** SBA Classroom 1174

- **Paper:** *Understanding Family Firm Practices on Female Empowerment as a New Form of Social Responsibility* (Georgiadou, Michaelidou, Tonikidou)  
**Presenter:** Nina Michaelidou, Loughborough Business School  
**Discussant:** Mariateresa Torchia, International University of Monaco
- **Paper:** *Trapped in the Golden Cage: Female Directors' Family-Induced Heterogeneity and its Implications for Firm Performance* (Ponomareva, Cambrea, Calabrò & Torchia)  
**Presenter:** Mariateresa Torchia, International University of Monaco  
**Discussant:** Folashade Akinyemi, Obafemi Awolowo University
- **Paper:** *Prospects for Sustainable Transitions in Nigerian Family Business: Female Inheritance and Participation* (Akinyemi, Jiboye, Obisanya, Adejumo & Akinbami)  
**Presenter:** Folashade Akinyemi, Obafemi Awolowo University  
**Discussant:** Elena Georgiadou, Loughborough Business School

14:00 – 15:00 pm **Lunch**

15:00 – 16:30 pm **Academic Papers:** Parallel Sessions VI & VII

**Parallel Session VI: Change and Resilience**

**Chairperson:** Philipp Harald Glocker, University of Witten Herdecke

**Location:** Classroom LIB011

- **Paper:** *“Change, before you have to”- Influence of digital changes on family firm succession process* (Mihotić & Pfajfar)  
**Presenters:** Lucija Mihotić, Vienna University of Economics and Business & Gregor Pfajfar, University of Ljubljana  
**Discussant:** Claudia Pongelli, Università Europea di Roma

- **Paper:** *Growth and Succession of an Arab Entrepreneurial Family Business* (Khan, Lindsay, Razzak & Al-Aufi)  
**Presenter:** Golam Mostafa Khan, Abu Dhabi School of Management  
**Discussant:** - Adnane Malaaoui, Prince Mohammed Bin Salman College
- **Paper:** *Together We Are Stronger: The Role Of Extended Sew For The Resilience Of Family Firms* (Pongelli & Delbufalo)  
**Presenter:** Claudia Pongelli, Università Europea di Roma  
**Discussant:** Lucija Mihotić, Vienna University of Economics and Business

**Parallel Session VII: Literature Review**

**Chairperson:** Andrea Calabrò, IPAG Business Schol

**Location:** Sheraa Hub Library at AUS

- **Paper:** *Financing and investment in family business. A systematic review and research agenda* (Cordoba, Maseda, Iturralde, Lampon, & Cabanelas)  
**Presenter:** Txomin Iturralde, Universidad del Pais Vasco  
**Discussant:** Bernard Acquah Obeng, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration
- **Paper:** *Integrating Institutional Theory and Social Exchange Perspective: A Framework for Review of Literature on Family Businesses Succession Planning in Africa* (Ofori-Dankwa, Obeng, Tuuli, Quagraine, Abban-Ampiah, Yobanya & Agyemang)  
**Presenter:** Bernard Acquah Obeng, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration  
**Discussant:** Behin Ram, ESC Clermont School
- **Paper:** *Comprehensive Analysis of Institutional Investors' Influence on Family Business Power Dynamics Following Liquidity Events in the GCC Region* (Behin)  
**Presenter:** Behin Ram, ESC Clermont School  
**Discussant:** Txomin Iturralde, Universidad del Pais Vasco

16:30 – 17:00 pm **Coffee Break & Networking**

17:30 pm **Gather at the AUS library roundabout - bus transportation to Social Dinner**

18:00 pm **Social Dinner** Venue: Abd El Wahab Souk Al Bahar

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**Thursday October 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**POLICYMAKERS & STAKEHOLDERS' DAY**

Venue: SHERAA Headquarters, Sharjah

09:45 – 10:00 am **Welcome & Overview:** Sheraa and Policymakers & Stakeholders' Day

10:00 – 12:00 pm **Panel Discussion:** Family Business and Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

- **HE Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri**, Ministry of Economy
- **Easa Al Gurg**, CEO of the Easa Saleh Al Gurg Group
- **Najla Al Midfa**, CEO of Sheraa

- **Farida El Egamy**, General Manager of Tharawat

12:00 – 13:30 pm **Academic Papers:** Parallel Sessions VIII & IX

**Session VIII:** Entrepreneurial Families

**Chairperson:** Rodrigo Basco, American University of Sharjah

**Location:** Sheraa Headquarters

- **Paper:** *Sticking to what they know: Entrepreneurial families on the Buy-side: A systemic review of the literature and agenda for future research* (Böckhaus)  
**Presenter:** Christoph Böckhaus, University of Witten/Herdecke  
**Discussant:** Stefano Amato, IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca
- **Paper:** *Configurations for Post-Succession Change: When Are New CEOs Able to Facilitate Change?* (Belschner, Waldkirch & Kammerlander)  
**Presenter:** Nadine Kammerlander, WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management  
**Discussant:** Christoph Böckhaus, University of Witten/Herdecke
- **Paper:** *Contextualizing Family Firms' Productivity: The Role of Local Institutions* (Pieroni, Amato, Basco & Lattanzi)  
**Presenter:** Stefano Amato, IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca  
**Discussant:** Nadine Kammerlander, WHU – Otto Beisheim School of Management

**Parallel Session IX:** Crisis, Sustainability, and Innovation

**Chairperson:** Christoph Böckhaus, University of Witten/Herdecke

**Location:** Sheraa Hub Library at AUS

- **Paper:** *Factors Affecting Family Business Sustainability: The Case of Egypt* (Nawara)  
**Presenter:** Ahmed Nawara, American University Cairo  
**Discussant:** Cintia Kulzer Sacilotto, UAE University
- **Paper:** *Which Businesses Enroll in Innovation Training? Evidence from a Field Experiment* (Crama, Hasan, Kotha, Krishnan, Sacilotto & Lim)  
**Presenter:** Cintia Kulzer Sacilotto, UAE University  
**Discussant:** Philipp Harald Glocker, University of Witten Herdecke
- **Paper:** *The Role of Women in the Family Firm and the Business Family: Cross-Cultural Perspectives from India, Russia and Peru* (Glocker)  
**Presenter:** Philipp Harald Glocker, University of Witten Herdecke  
**Discussant:** Ahmed Nawara, American University Cairo

**13:45 – 14:15 Concluding Session**

**14:30 – 15:00 pm Lunch Venue:** Caya Restaurant

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