



SMS Corporate Strategy and Governance Interest Group
NEWSLETTER
Summer 2011

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Term 2011

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From Our IG Chair

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

SMS 2011 in Miami will be upon soon. Program Chair Gerry Sanders provides a summary of the submissions below. Also, Associate Program Chair, Parthiban David summarizes the pre-conference workshops sponsored by the Corporate Strategy and Corporate Governance Interest Group (CSCG IG).

Survey Coming. You will soon receive an email from the SMS office asking you to participate in a survey asking about the wisdom of keeping corporate strategy and corporate governance in the same interest group. At our last IG business meeting in Rome, a discussion was held on whether corporate strategy and corporate governance were part of the same research or really separate research streams and if separate, what is the implication of that for our interest group. Over the years, our IG program chairs have noted a pretty clear distinction in the submissions to the IG, with very few that seem to straddle the two concepts, except in incidental ways. It was eventually suggested that we should survey the membership and ask whether you view your own research as reflecting mostly one area of this pairing or not, and whether you would favor splitting the IG into two separate interest groups (e.g., a corporate strategy IG and a separate corporate governance IG) or not. The results of this survey will be presented at the business meeting in Miami this November.

Fall Elections. Following the Miami Conference, we will be holding elections for Associate Program Chair, and three representatives-at-large positions that will vacated at the end of this year. Running for the Associate Program Chair position will be Don Bergh and Karen Schnatterly. The six candidates running for the rep-at-large positions are: Kimberly Ellis (Florida-Atlantic Univ.), Hicheon Kim (Korea Univ.), Lazlo Tihanyi (Texas A&M Univ.), Fred Van Eenennaam (Nyenrode Business Univ.), William Wan (Texas Tech Univ.), and Heli Wang (Hong Kong Univ of Science & Technology). You will receive an email announcing the election and providing a link to the SMS web site where you can read up on the candidates and make your voice heard. Please support the candidate of your choice by voting. The election is from Nov. 15 to Dec. 15.

Thank you! Finally, we want to thank the three representative-at-large members whose terms are up in December. They are Yasemin Kor, Todd Zenger, Yan Zhang. Thank you for your contributions to the IG and the SMS.

Also, we thank Guoli Chen for agreeing to produce the IG newsletter this year. We know how busy everyone is, and so thank you Guoli for finding the time to assemble our newsletter.

2012 SMS Conference. Finally, you will be excited to know that the fall, 2012 SMS conference will be held in Prague, Czech Republic. The Theme will be "Strategy in Transition." The theme recognizes economic transformation occurring in Central and East Europe, while recognizing the social and economic transitions occurring across industries and societies around the globe.

I look forward to seeing you in Miami,

Robert M. Wiseman, Chair
Corporate Strategy and Corporate Governance IG

Miami Conference Program

We experienced another year of robust interest in the Corporate Strategy and Corporate Governance IG. The conference planning process would be impossible without the very generous support of our IG members and their willingness to review. Our IG received the second highest number of submissions, which means we needed a lot of participation in the review process. I am very gratified that our IG reviewer participation exceeded the conference averages on all metrics. All of our manuscripts received at least two reviews, 97% of reviewers who agreed to review a manuscript fulfilled their commitment, and several heroic IG members stepped up to fill the gaps on missing reviews. The result of the open submission and review process is a very interesting collection of manuscripts for the Miami program.

As you know, the SMS utilizes a conference format that includes both paper sessions and common ground sessions. Just a few years ago, the SMS directed that this dual class format was not intended to assign higher and lower ranked submissions to different session formats. Rather, program chairs were directed to assign manuscripts to the session where it fit best with the other manuscripts. I took this directive to heart and ignored reviewer feedback and manuscript rankings when organizing sessions. Rather, I relied solely on topics, theories, and methodologies. As a result, I hope you will agree that the sessions have a very high degree of coherence.

Another point regarding the dual class session format deserves mention. As a result of the session organizing process, the Best Paper Prize nominees are dispersed across both formats. Because the Award process now does NOT include the presentation, this will have no negative effects on particular manuscripts.

Thanks again to all of you who made the Miami program possible!

Gerry Sanders, Program Chair
Corporate Strategy and Corporate Governance IG

Preconference Schedule

We offer three pre-conference workshops this year. The first workshop is designed as a writing workshop for doctoral students and new faculty. We have run this workshop in the last two years at the Rome and Washington DC conferences, and based on rave reviews have continued it this year. Participants will submit working papers and be provided with informal feedback on how to improve the manuscript for submission to the top tier journals in our field. The feedback will be done in person during the workshop in a round-table format in which each reviewer will meet with all the authors assigned to them and discuss how each manuscript could be improved. This workshop is organized by Parthiban David (parthiban.david@american.edu), and panelists will include accomplished scholars who have been widely published in top-tier journals.

The second workshop, titled “Corporate Governance: Emerging Trends and New Research Directions” aims to explore some interesting emerging trends in the research on corporate governance. Ideas to be discussed include the role of owners and lenders in setting corporate strategy and shaping firm performance in various institutional environments. The workshop is organized by Jon O’Brien (obriej8@rpi.edu) and panelists include Ravi Dharwadkar, Bob Hoskisson, Laszlo Tihanyi, Ed Zajac, and Yu Zhang.

The third workshop, titled “Corporate Strategy: Emerging Trends and New Research Directions” aims to explore some interesting emerging trends in the research on corporate strategy. The workshop is organized by Shyam Kumar (kumarm2@rpi.edu) and panelists include Joseph Mahoney (josephm@illinois.edu), Gautam Ahuja (gahuja@umich.edu), and Jeff Reuer (jreuer@purdue.edu).

Parthiban David, Asst. Program Chair
Corporate Strategy and Corporate Governance IG

Congratulations to Our New Officers

We have four outstanding new officers joining the CSCG IG this year. First, Parthiban David of American University begins his three year cycle through the IG leadership as our new associate program chair. We also have three new representatives-at-large who will serve a two year term. They are Guoli Chen of INSEAD, Cynthia Devers of Tulane, and William Judge of Old Dominion University. Welcome and congratulations!