**PROPOSAL & CALL FOR PAPERS**

Special Issue of *Small Business Economics: An Entrepreneurship Journal*

“**Women’s Entrepreneurship & Culture**”

Special Issue Editors:

Amanda Bullough, University of Delaware, USA

Ulrike Guelich, Bangkok University, Thailand

Friederike Welter, Institut für Mittelstandsforschung Bonn, & University of Siegen, Germany

Tatiana Manolova, Bentley University, USA

Leon Schjoedt, Mahasarakham University, Thailand

All submissions are due no later than **March 4, 2019**.

According to the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM), 126 million women launched or operated businesses in just 67 of the more than 200 economies around the world in 2012 (Kelley, Brush, Greene, Litvosky, 2012). Although women entrepreneurs are important for creating new jobs and contributing to the social and economic growth of their societies, the interplay and nuances of women’s entrepreneurship and culture are understudied (Terjesen, Elam, Brush, 2011; De Bruin, Brush, Welter, 2006; Bullough, Moore, and Kalafatoglu, 2017).

Prior research has identified obstacles to women’s entrepreneurship, including social, cultural, infrastructural, educational, occupational, and role barriers (Baughn, Chua, Neupert, 2006; Bullough, Renko, and Abdelzaher, 2017; Jennings and Brush, 2013; Welter and Smallbone, 2011). Culture represents multifaceted explanations for differences in women’s entrepreneurship across societies and in the success or failure of business activities. Many barriers and constraints that women entrepreneurs experience are gender specific and stem from cultural values, norms, and customs (Baughn, Chua, Neupert, 2006; Brush, de Bruin, Gatewood, Henry 2010). Gender egalitarianism, a construct gauging the extent to which society minimizes gender role differences and gender discrimination, is an under-research cultural indicator in women’s entrepreneurship (Bullough & Sully de Luque, 2015).

This special issue of Small Business Economics: An Entrepreneurship Journal seeks papers that generally fit within the overarching theme of women’s entrepreneurship and culture. We invite participants to investigate female entrepreneurship in a variety of cultural and societal settings, with a particular focus on women’s entrepreneurship and culture, interactions between and among cultures and societies, cross-cultural similarities and differences, as well as the impact *of* culture and the impact *on* culture. Emphasis is placed on studies that consider the opportunities, strategies, and business models, as well as the challenges faced in today's increasingly digitized and networked world, emphasizing how women start and grow their businesses.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

* How does culture shape or influence women’s businesses and business decisions, including job creation and innovation?
* How do women’s businesses shape or influence their societies’ norms, expectations, beliefs, and development?
* How do (targeted) policies and programs influence the relationship between culture and women’s entrepreneurship?
* How are cultural frames, categories, labels, discourses, and practices developed and leveraged to support women’s entrepreneurship?
* How does teamwork facilitate women’s business development and growth and what kinds of teams to women entrepreneurs build?
* Are there differences across cultures and minority groups that affect women entrepreneurs (e.g. Latina, Asian, Black, etc.)? If so what are these differences and do they matter?

We invite submissions to this special issue on women’s entrepreneurship and culture that are both theoretical and empirical and in line with the journal’s mission to publish “rigorous research on entrepreneurship, self-employment, family firms, small and medium-sized firms, and new venture creation.” We encourage interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary research from a broad spectrum of disciplines and related fields, including entrepreneurs' characteristics, occupational choice, new ventures and innovation, firms life courses and performance; as well as the role played by institutions and public policies within local, regional, national and international contexts. Further, articles published in Small Business Economics typically emphasize the economic and societal relevance of research findings. Scholars are encouraged to connect empirical phenomena to theory and to employ rigorous and replicable data and methods to test their ideas. Qualitative and quantitative papers as well as new theoretical contributions are welcome. Guest editors will be looking for submissions that are a good fit for this journal in general, and fit within the specific niche of women’s entrepreneurship and culture. Submissions will go through the same double-blind review process as a regular submissions. At the end of that processes, manuscripts with the best fit and quality will be selected for publication.

Responding to the call for increased impact, this special issue seeks innovative research that generates new, or builds on existing, key debates and questions in order to generate a richer, more robust, understanding of the domain of women’s entrepreneurship research.

This is an open call for papers. This means we welcome conceptual and empirical—qualitative and quantitative—research from scholars in all areas of research and in the international research community who have a particular interest in women’s entrepreneurship and culture. Researchers interested in publishing in the Special Issue should submit their paper to the Special Issue editors at [SBE.culture@gmail.com](mailto:SBE.culture@gmail.com)

The publication timeline for the special issues is as follows:

Submissions Due March 4, 2019

Editors Process Submissions & Invite Reviews March 28, 2019

Double-Blind Reviews Complete (1st Round) June 15, 2019

Invited Revisions Due August 31, 2019

Editors Process Submissions & Invite Reviews September 30, 2019

Double-Blind Reviews Complete (2nd Round) November 30, 2019

Invited Revisions Due January 30, 2020

Editors Process Submissions & Invite Reviews February 30, 2020

Double-Blind Reviews Complete (3rd Round) April 30, 2020

Final Manuscripts Due May 30, 2020

Submission to and approval of submissions by EiC June 30, 2020

In print Fall/Winter 2020

Papers should be no longer than 8,000 words in length, including references; they should not currently be in print or submitted for consideration to another journal. All submissions should conform to the SBEJ manuscript submission guidelines (i.e. Instructions for Authors) available at <https://www.springer.com/business+%26+management/journal/11187?detailsPage=pltci_2323134>.

All papers should be fully referenced with appropriate permissions obtained, where relevant. Shorter research notes are also welcomed. Initially all papers will be reviewed by the editors. Papers selected for potential inclusion in the edition will be subject to double blind peer review. Intentions are to publish the Special Issue in late 2020. *Small Business Economics* has an impact factor of 2.852 (2017) and is published by Springer Nature. Editor-in-Chiefs are David B. Audretsch and Zoltan J. Acs.

Please contact any of the Special Issue editors for any further queries at [SBE.culture@gmail.com](mailto:SBE.culture@gmail.com)

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