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IFERA@CHINA 2010 Family Business Forum Opportunities and Challenges of Family Business January 13-15, 2010

The IFERA 2010 Family Business Forum, to be held in Zhuhai, China in January 2010, is a 3-day academic symposium that aims to share leading-edge research and best practice of family business administration, conceptualise theoretical frameworks to better understand family businesses, and explore policy initiatives to enable this unique business sector to accomplish greater success and sustainability in the future advancement.

The Forum, to be jointly hosted by **IFERA-International Family Enterprise Research Academy**, **Beijing Institute of Technology (BIT)** and **Beijing Business Operation Management Association (BBOMA)**, emphasises the development of family businesses. IFERA is a pioneering international organisation in promoting and disseminating research in the area of family business management. BIT, renowned for its research profiles in China for over 50 years, is a nationally leading and internationally recognised university.

Theme of the Forum: Opportunities and Challenges of Family Business

The theme of the Forum, 'Opportunities and Challenges of Family Business', pays particular attention to the interaction of social, economical, political and cultural forces that affect the formation, survival, and growth of family businesses in different economies. Along this direction, many sub-themes are worth investigating and debating. The following are sub-themes, while not exhaustive, are indicative of the research papers the Forum programme aims to cover:

- Emergence and development of family business in transitional economies
- Opportunities and challenges of family business in economic crisis
- Risk taking and risk management
- Family business start-ups and entrepreneurship
- Strategy in family business, including internationalisation
- Regional economy, supporting institutions, and family business
- Family business sustainability and social responsibility
- Corporate governance in family business
- Dynamic leadership of family business, including succession
- Policy initiatives and academic support for family business development
- Other family business related topics

In addition to papers that advance research, papers that offer implications directly to family firms, as well as to policy makers (e.g. government officials at all levels, economic development agencies, etc.) will be most welcome.

Key Highlights of the Programme

Keynote Speakers: Professor Jess H. Chua, University of Calgary, world leading researcher in family business and finance; Professor Panikkos Poutziouris, President of IFERA; a CEO from a Chinese family business

13th January 2010 (Day 1): Registration commences, Welcome reception

14th January 2010 (Day 2): Main Forum - Keynote speakers, track presentations of full research papers, and poster presentations; Chinese Gala Dinner

15th January 2010 (Day 3): Main Forum and Family Business Visits – Track presentations of full research papers (AM), presentations from practitioners (AM) and family business visits (PM)

Key Submission Dates

- One page abstract/proposal 21st August 2009
- Refereed paper required for blind review 23rd October 2009
- Discussion paper (work-in-progress) 30th October 2009
- Notification of acceptance to the Forum 13th November 2009

Special Journal Issues: Competitive papers will be considered for publication in special journal issues:

- *International Journal of Management Practice* (Guest Editor: Prof. Thomas Schwarz, California State University Fullerton, USA)
- *Family Business Review* (Chinese)
- *Enterprise Management* (Chinese)

IFERA@CHINA 2010 Family Business Forum Committee

Forum Co-Chairs: Rong Pei, BIT, China; Panikkos Poutziouris, CIIM, Cyprus

Research Programme Chair: Yong Wang, Wolverhampton University, UK

Forum Advisory Committee: Sanjay Goel, University of Minnesota Duluth, USA; Jess Chua, Calgary University, Canada; Weeliang Tan, Singapore Management University, Singapore; Ling Chen, Zhejiang University, China; Xinchun Li, Zhongshan University, China; Xiaoping Chu, Zhongshan University, China

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Location and Hotels: Located at the southern estuary of the Pearl River Delta in Guangdong Province, Zhuhai has an advantaged setting between the two special regions, Macau to the south and Hong Kong to the east. Zhuhai is a garden-like seaside tourist city, where flowers bloom all year round. It boasts amiable climate, beautiful beaches and natural landscape, and has been crowned as the 'Model City for Environment Protection' by the United Nations. Benefiting from a swift economic growth, Zhuhai connects itself to the main national and international transport network. Its airport lies 40 kilometres from downtown, which has flights to major domestic cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, and Chongqing. The Dehan Hotel, the venue of the Forum, is a 5-star hotel, surrounded by other hotels, ranging from 3-5 stars. All hotels are well-versed in providing pleasant and thoughtful customer service to international guests.

The **IFERA@CHINA team** will be honoured to welcome you to China to show you the world's fastest growing private economy blended with ancient history and cultural heritage. We sincerely look forward to your submissions and your honoured visit. Please contact us or the forum secretary for any questions or comments.