

6-7-2014

## ANTECEDENTS OF ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION AMONG GENOMICS SCIENTISTS (INTERACTIVE PAPER)

Denis J. Garand

*Université Laval, Canada, denis.j.garand@fsa.ulaval.ca*

Jacques Baronet

*Université de Sherbrooke, Canada*

Sophie Veilleux

*Université Laval, Canada*

Johanne Queenton

*Université de Sherbrooke, Canada*

Maripier Tremblay

*Université Laval, Canada*

---

### Recommended Citation

Garand, Denis J.; Baronet, Jacques; Veilleux, Sophie; Queenton, Johanne; and Tremblay, Maripier (2014) "ANTECEDENTS OF ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION AMONG GENOMICS SCIENTISTS (INTERACTIVE PAPER)," *Frontiers of Entrepreneurship Research*: Vol. 34 : Iss. 5 , Article 21.

Available at: <https://digitalknowledge.babson.edu/fer/vol34/iss5/21>

This Interactive Paper is brought to you for free and open access by the Entrepreneurship at Babson at Digital Knowledge at Babson. It has been accepted for inclusion in Frontiers of Entrepreneurship Research by an authorized editor of Digital Knowledge at Babson. For more information, please contact [digitalknowledge@babson.edu](mailto:digitalknowledge@babson.edu).

≈ INTERACTIVE PAPER ≈

ANTECEDENTS OF ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION AMONG  
GENOMICS SCIENTISTS

*Denis J. Garand, Université Laval, Canada*  
*Jacques Baronet, Université de Sherbrooke, Canada*  
*Sophie Veilleux, Université Laval, Canada*  
*Johanne Queenton, Université de Sherbrooke, Canada*  
*Maripier Tremblay, Université Laval, Canada*

### Principal Topic

The importance of economic growth in science-based entrepreneurship has been widely established (Link & Welsh, 2013). In fact, genomics research is now considered to be extremely meaningful for the physical, social and economic benefits it can bring to society (JAMA, 2013). As few studies address entrepreneurship in life sciences (Moog et al., 2012), and responding to the poor commercialization outcomes of genomics research in Canada, a strategy for developing entrepreneurial education programs for genomics scientists was launched in 2011. *Boosting Entrepreneurial Skills and Training: BEST in genomics!* raises awareness and promotes entrepreneurship among science researchers and their graduate students.

### Method

Using validated questionnaires as well as new ones created for scientists, 153 researchers were surveyed, out of 900 in Canada involved in genomics research. We used (1) a multiple correspondence analysis of different groupings of individuals: non-entrepreneurs, nascent, novice, experienced entrepreneurs, intrapreneurs and managers, into three clusters of scientists (former entrepreneurs, uninterested by startup, and interested by venturing); (2) two personality dimensions (creative / risk-taking personalities) and two sets of entrepreneurial skills (opportunity recognition / startup).

### Results and Implications

Three categories emerge: (1) Actual and future entrepreneurs, including genomics scientists who started businesses in their field, and those who would like to; (2) Intrapreneurs and managers; (3) Professional people and genomics scientists uninterested in venturing.

These results confirm several research findings from the entrepreneurial intention and skills literature, as well as generate new findings: high scores on opportunity recognition skills, startup skills, risk-taking, and creative personality (cat. 1); medium levels (cat. 2); low levels of skills and risk-taking/creative personalities (cat. 3). Former and would-be entrepreneurs among genomics scientists share similar attributes and skills with entrepreneurs in other fields.

Amazingly, 5% of genomics scientists already own or owned a business in the past, and 32% of the remaining population of scientists intends to start a business. This highlights that there is an untapped entrepreneurial potential currently existing within the various fields of life sciences researchers. Hopefully, we aim to fill this huge gap in the near future.

**CONTACT:** Denis J. Garand, [denis.j.garand@fsa.ulaval.ca](mailto:denis.j.garand@fsa.ulaval.ca); (T) 418-656-2131 x4230, FSA ULaval, 2325 rue de la Terrasse, Québec (QC), Canada G1V 0A6.