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Research at Babson - 10/2009

Babson Faculty Research Fund

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2nd Call for Proposals BFRF – CWL – GGP

The Babson Faculty Research Fund, Center for Women's Leadership, and Glavin Global Programs all have resources available to support faculty research projects. The next **deadline** for 2010-2011 proposals is:

Wednesday, January 27

The [Common Proposal Packet](#), which can be found on the BFRF web site, contains proposal guidelines and revised application forms. Please see the funding guidelines below for details of what funds are available and what types of activities are eligible for support. If you have any questions, contact [Susan Chern](#) (x5339).

Funding Guidelines

Babson Faculty Research Fund (BFRF)

Funding Goals:

The BFRF supports a wide variety of research activities to sustain, enhance, and renew the intellectual vitality of faculty and to increase the public visibility and academic reputation of the College and its faculty, regionally, nationally, and internationally.

Areas supported:

The BFRF invites proposals for research that are designed to result in publications. The BFRF does not support proposals for curriculum development, case writing or textbooks.

Eligibility:

The BFRF shall consider only proposals by full-time, tenured or tenure-track faculty members on a current contract. Only endowed chair holders and current BFRF members are ineligible to apply for BFRF support.

Funding categories:

At this time, the BFRF only has 5-6 course releases available.

Glavin Global Programs (GGP)

Funding Goals:

The Glavin Chairs support research that fits their mission to raise Babson's reputation for international and global management.

Areas supported:

Research should be aimed at the international management community and preference will be given to papers that have relevance for present or future practitioners. Priority will be given to faculty projects that can be brought to conclusion or show visible accomplishment by the end of the following academic year (Sept. 2010). In general, initial stages of work on a new project are not funded. The Glavin Center will support research, case writing, and textbooks.

Eligibility:

Normally, the Center shall consider only proposals by full-time, tenured or tenure-track faculty members on a current contract.

Funding categories:

Funds for a project, a course release, or a \$7,500 summer stipend.

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Center for Women's Leadership (CWL)

Funding Goals:

CWL supports research relating to the current status of women in business/leadership roles and historical research on women who have had an impact through their leadership roles.

Areas supported:

CWL supports research that will eventually result in articles, books, or conference presentations.

Eligibility:

All faculty, adjuncts, lecturers, and executives in residence are eligible; visiting faculty are not eligible.

Funding categories:

Release time (course release) – generally to complete the final stage of an ongoing project; research-related travel expenses to collect data; conference presentations – travel, registration, etc.; and stipends – seed money to jump-start or investigate new research projects

BFRF Final Products Accepted

Marjorie Feld, History and Society, American Jews and the Struggle Over Apartheid”

American Jews and the Struggle Over Apartheid chronicles American Jewish involvement in a transnational movement to end the system of racial injustice in South Africa. It explores the complex relationships among Jews’ diasporic identity, the contested legacies of the Holocaust, and Jewish commitments to the principles of liberation. Many American Jews saw the fight against apartheid as a natural extension of their American Civil Rights activism. But others worried that critiques of South African apartheid would threaten the pursuit of post-World War II global Jewish unity, diminishing their Zionist loyalties and distracting them from their focus on religious ritual. Even as the immorality of apartheid grew to be universally accepted, American Jews continued to struggle over persistent analogies between South African apartheid and the relationship between Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. This pioneering analysis of the long historical encounter between American Jews and systems of apartheid argues that American Jews’ commitments to global justice reflect conflicting definitions of Jewishness itself—and that as American Jews worked through their attitudes toward South Africa, they also began the contested work of defining their positions on Israel.

Michael Goldstein, Finance, “Liquidity and the Pricing of Corporate Bond Issues”

This paper studies the link between secondary market liquidity in corporate bonds and the bond’s yield spread at issuance. Using ex-ante measures of expected liquidity at the time of issuance, based on the composition of the underwriting syndicate, we find an economically large impact of liquidity on yield spreads. Based on our estimates, a one standard deviation increase in expected liquidity lowers an issuer’s yield spread by between 1.2% and 3.3%. Our results suggest that liquidity has an important effect on firms’ cost of capital and also contribute to the literature which examines the impact of liquidity on asset prices.

Steven Gordon, TOIM, “Use of Emerging Information Technologies to Increase Innovator Productivity”

Web 2.0 applications have the potential to make their users more effective at information sharing, information management, collaboration, data manipulation and data analysis. This research addresses how innovators can use these Web 2.0 applications to increase their creativity and innovation capability. In answering this question we also address how institutional mechanisms can facilitate use of these applications, what characteristics of these applications users find most important for activities required for innovation, and what role the IS function can play to develop capabilities for supporting and enhancing the use of these applications.

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Yoo-Taek Lee, TOIM, “The Role of Complementary Resources in the Development of E-supply Chains and the Firm’s Performance: An Exploratory Analysis of Secondary Data”

E-supply chains (e-SCs), which are Internet-enabled supply chains, are progressively being implemented in companies to improve their operational and financial performance. Several studies exist where the association between the development of an e-supply chain and the performance of a firm, has been investigated. However, there is a paucity of literature that describes how information technology (IT) resources interact with other complementary resources to e-supply chains to positively impact a firm’s performance. This paper seeks to adopt a resource-based view of the firms (RBVF) and empirically tests a framework that identifies and validates the relationships among IT resources, complementary resources to e-supply chains, and performance of a firm. This study utilizes secondary data from two sources – data collected by the South Korean Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy (MOCIE) and financial data from the Korea Exchange. The data from a total of 170 firms representing 10 industries in South Korea were analyzed using a partial least-squares technique (PLS). The results of the analysis confirm that IT resources do not directly influence supply chain performance. However, when associated with a complementary resource, IT resources positively affect both supply chain operations and a firm’s financial performance. The findings of this research support the current existing literature on the RBVF approach with regard to the domain of supply chain management, and can provide additional insights to industry practitioners on how to effectively utilize complementary resources in developing e-SCs to deliver improved performance.

Brian Seitz, Arts and Humanities, “Philosophy and the Double” This essay introduces the problem of the double by addressing its role and play in philosophy, focusing on two exemplary figures, Plato and Kant, whose metaphysical bifurcations secure philosophical necessity but at the cost of this world. This Plato/Kant section will occupy the vast bulk of the essay. Then, with reference to other writers and to other configurations, the remainder of this essay/chapter will provide an initial indication of the wilder and darker side of the double, which will be pursued in later chapters of the book.

Library Research Tool Kit:

Direct access to essential library research tools and content.

- [Library Catalog](#) : search library collections
- [Business FAQs: Quick Answers](#) : points students to the best resources for frequently asked business related questions
- [Research Guides](#) : research assistance, subject and instructional database guides
- [A to Z Database List](#) : access databases
- [Central Search](#) : one stop shopping for searching multiple article databases simultaneously
- [Online Journal Finder](#) : find a journal in full text
- [Online Tutorials](#) : quick tutorials on how to research different subjects or specific databases
- [Ask A Librarian](#) : Library support and help options.