

From the Editors

Welcome to Volume 22, Number 1 of the *Journal of Small Business Strategy*. We hope you enjoy the articles in this issue. In this issue, our topics range from gender differences on the differential value of networks for entrepreneurs to the mediating effect of planning between overconfidence and performance to an examination of three forms of businesses during the startup phase to the effectiveness of a public coaching program. This issue concludes with an opportunity to further analyze the Panel Study on Entrepreneurial Dynamics.

Our first article by Malewicki and Leitch looks at the differential values of networks to entrepreneurs broken down by gender. Specifically, females perceived a higher economic benefit from networks, and a higher affective value. No significant differences were found on perceived normative value. The sad part of this article appearing in this issue is that the lead author, Debra Malewicki passed away in May of 2010. This paper was submitted to JSBS after her passing. This research represents some of her last work. The Editors want to thank her coauthor, Cathy (Folker) Leitch, for her continued effort to see that Debra's contribution was not lost. (See Memorium preceding article.)

In our next article, Simon, Kim, Houghton, and Deng sampled 52 small computer companies that introduced a new product. They examined a manager's overconfidence and planning at the points where the product was launched and 18 months later. Their findings indicate that overconfidence decreases planning, and planning decreased performance. Additionally, they found that planning mediated the relationship between these two variables.

In our third article, *A Resource-Based View of Three Forms of Businesses in the Startup Phase: Implications for Franchising*, Welsh, Davis, Desplaces, and Falbe utilize the resource-based view of organizations to compare franchisees during the startup phase utilizing the U.S. data from the Kauffman Firm Survey. This study extends the literature by considering three forms of startups—franchises, new independent startups, and repurchased existing businesses in their analysis.

Our fourth article by Schayek and Dvir uses a longitudinal study of small trade and service businesses that were part of a coaching program run by the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Labor in Israel. Their findings show that the public assistance program produced a direct positive effect on small business performance.

This issue concludes with a Distinguished Research Commentary by Kelly Shaver and his coauthors concerning the Panel Study of Entrepreneurial Dynamics. This database provides a rich source of insights into nascent entrepreneurs. The longitudinal samples are representative of the U.S., making the PSED unique in the quality of sampling and one's ability to generalize. There are abundant opportunities to further analyze these data and this article provides valuable insights to facilitate this process.

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