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15th Nordic Conference on Small Business Research

*Challenges for Entrepreneurship and Small
Business Development in the Context of
European Enlargement*

CALL FOR PAPERS

www.ncsb2008.ttu.ee

**Tallinn, Estonia
May 21-23, 2008**

15th NORDIC CONFERENCE ON SMALL BUSINESS RESEARCH

May 21-23, 2008

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TALLINN UNIVERSITY OF
TECHNOLOGY

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Tallinn School of Economics and Business Administration,
Tallinn University of Technology

Kopli Street 101, 11712 TALLINN, ESTONIA

Phone: (372) 5209616, Fax: (372) 6203946, Email: conference@tv.ttu.ee

<http://www.ncsb2008.ttu.ee>

We are delighted to invite you to the 15th Nordic Conference on Small Business Research. The first conference took place in 1980, in Ronneby, Sweden and since then it has been a biannual event organised in Nordic countries. Now, the conference for the first time is organised outside the Nordic countries. It is a great pleasure for Tallinn School of Economics and Business Administration at Tallinn University of Technology, to invite and welcome senior as well as junior researchers from Nordic and Baltic countries, as well as researchers from other European countries and overseas to Tallinn, Estonia for the:

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CONFERENCE THEMES

The Conference has since its inception in 1980 always been an event in the Nordic tradition, characterised by an open atmosphere that encourages the exchange of ideas between researchers with different research interests in the field of small business research. The 2008 Conference will continue this tradition and welcomes papers in different fields, for example:

- SMEs and Globalisation
- Entrepreneurship and Regional Development
- Emergence and Development of Business Networks
- Internationalisation and Cross Border Cooperation of Enterprises
- Public Policy related to Entrepreneurship and SMEs
- Entrepreneurship Education and its Effectiveness
- Entrepreneurship and SME Research Methodology
- Knowledge-based and Innovative Entrepreneurship and Small Firms
- SMEs and Governance
- SME Management issues
- Different types of entrepreneurship (e.g. family, female, social, academic entrepreneurship)

The Conference Programme will feature Keynote Speeches and Paper sessions in the above and other emerging small business and entrepreneurship research fields. Empirical and conceptual papers as well as case studies and methodological papers are welcome.

DOCTORAL PRE-CONFERENCE

The Conference offers doctoral students an arena to discuss their research findings with peers and more experienced colleagues. On 21 May, doctoral students are invited to present research proposals to a group of experienced researchers in the field. The

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number of participating doctoral students is limited. Doctoral students interested in attending and presenting their research proposal should send an abstract on one page to the conference secretary (conference@tv.ttu.ee). Sessions will be organized based on the proposals from the doctoral students.

The doctoral pre-conference will be jointly organized and led by Professor Olav R. Spilling (Chair), Professor Poul Rind Christensen, Professor Anne Kovalainen and Associate Professor Urve Venesaar. Participation in the doctoral pre-conference is included in the Conference fee. All doctoral students are invited to join the sessions.

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS

Electronic submission of abstracts and papers for the conference will be arranged via the conference website: www.ncsb2008.ttu.ee. The abstract should clearly highlight: the aim of the paper; the contribution to the literature; the methodology, results and implications. Abstracts are to be no longer than 3 (A4) pages. Please use 12 font size and 1.5 spaced layout. All abstracts will be blind reviewed.

For detailed information about submission procedures and author's instructions regarding abstracts and full papers please visit the conference website: www.ncsb2008.ttu.ee

DEADLINES:

- Extended deadline for submission of abstract: 20 February 2008
- Notification of acceptance of submissions: 15 February 2008 (1st round)
- Notification of acceptance of submissions: 25 February 2008 (2nd round)
- Deadline for submission of complete papers: 21 April 2008
- Deadline for doctoral pre-conference research proposals: 1 May 2008
- Deadline for early registration: 1 May 2008

CONFERENCE VENUE

The conference will be held at Reval Hotel Olümpia Conference Centre. Reval Hotel Olümpia is located in the heart of the trendy business district of Tallinn, 8 minutes walking distance from the city's historical pearl – the Old Town. Please visit the hotel website for more information: <http://www.revalhotels.com/en/Hotels/Estonia-Tallinn/Reval-Hotel-Olympia>.

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ACCOMMODATION

Preliminary hotel reservations (at a discounted price) have been made for the conference participants at the hotels:

**Reval Hotel Olümpia* – single room 115 eur / double room 125 eur per night

**Reval Hotel Park Hotel & Casino* – single room 100 eur / double room 110 eur per night

**Reval Hotel Central* – single room 95 eur / double room 105 eur per night

**Reval Inn* – both single and double room 69 eur per night

Please note: Participants need to make reservations on their own. Please contact the hotel website: www.revalhotels.ee. The preliminary hotel reservations will be held until 1 May 2008. Please notice that the **keyword** for booking with the conference price is: **ncsb2008**.

If you choose not to stay at the suggested hotel it is highly recommended to make early reservations for accommodation, as hotels are quite full in Tallinn during this time of the year.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM

Tallinn is easily accessed by air, boat, bus or car. About travel and tourism please read more at the website www.ncsb2008.ttu.ee or visit <http://www.tourism.tallinn.ee/>

REGISTRATION

Registration is organised electronically on the website: www.ncsb2008.ttu.ee
Registration is possible from December 15, 2007. Please note that early registrations will receive a lower conference fee (see below), therefore be sure to complete your registration as soon as possible.

CONFERENCE FEE

The Conference fee is 350EUR if registration is completed no later than April, 1 2008. For participants who register between April 1 and May 1, 2008 the conference fee is 375EUR. After May 1, the conference fee is 450EUR. Please note that we offer a special conference fee for PhD students: 250EUR. The conference fee includes all sessions, conference documents, welcome reception, conference dinner, 2 lunches, coffee and refreshments.

Participants will be invoiced upon registration.

Please note: Accommodation and travel costs are not included in the conference fee.

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PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 21st May 2008

9.00 Doctoral Pre-Conference

17.00 Registration

19.00 Welcome Reception

Thursday, 22nd May 2008

8.00 Registration

9.00 Opening Session with Welcome and Keynote Addresses

10.30 Coffee Break

11.00 Paper Sessions

12.30 Lunch

14.00 Paper Sessions

15.30 Coffee Break

16.00 Paper Sessions

20.00 Conference Dinner

Friday, 23rd May 2008

9.00 Plenary Session with Keynote Address

9.45 Paper Sessions

10.45 Coffee Break

11.00 Paper Sessions

12.30 Lunch

14.00 Closing Session

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

Walking guided tour in Tallinn Old Town will be organized on Wednesday, 21st May at 16.00 during 1.5 hours. For more information see: <http://ncsb2008.ttu.ee>.

Welcome Reception will take place in Tallinn Town Hall, a building from the 13th century. The Town Hall is a unique architectural monument, the only preserved Late-Gothic town hall in Northern Europe. For more information about the Tallinn Town Hall please visit: <http://veeb.tallinn.ee/raekoda/>.

Conference Dinner will be held in the medieval restaurant in Tallinn – Olde Hansa. Olde Hansa was established to honour the Hanseatic League and our forefathers and foremothers. The restaurant has dedicated itself to this task in order to take you on a journey to Tallinn's golden age. For more information please visit: <http://www.oldehansa.ee/>.

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ORGANISING COMMITTEE

- Prof. Poul Rind Christensen (rind@asb.dk), Aarhus School of Business, Aarhus University, Denmark
- Dr Ulla Hytti (ulla.hytti@tse.fi), Turku School of Economics, TSE Entre, Finland
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- Prof Markku Virtanen (Markku.Virtanen@pyk.hkkk.fi), Helsinki School of Economics, Small Business Center in Mikkeli, Finland

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Conference Secretary: Marianne Kallaste, phone: (372) 5209616

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