

## Call for Papers

### ***Business History*** **Special Issue Conference on** **the History and Evolution of Entrepreneurship and Finance in China**



**Date:** 23-24 August 2013 (Friday and Saturday)

**Location:** Pingyao, China

(The old financial and entrepreneurial center of China, one of the best preserved ancient cities in the known world, and also a World Heritage Site)

<http://youtu.be/jjAb8vmiocI>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pingyao\\_County](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pingyao_County)

**Conference Link:** <http://www.chinadrcentre.org/>

#### **Organizers and Guest Editors:**

**Douglas Cumming**, Schulich School of Business, York University, Canada

**Alessandra Guariglia**, Department of Economics, University of Birmingham, UK

**Wenxuan Hou**, University of Edinburgh Business School, UK

**Edward Lee**, Manchester Business School, University of Manchester, UK

**Conference Venue:** Kylin Grand Hotel (5\*)

#### **Scope:**

***“The History and Evolution of Entrepreneurship and Finance in China”***

China today is mostly known for its rapid growth and increasing influential economy on the World stage. It is an aspiring emerging country that is aiming to become one of the largest economies in the world. As a result of China’s economic success so far, its experience and development has policy implications for other emerging economies. Due to this, research of business issues in China is attracting increasing attention from academics, practitioners, and policy makers. In the past few years, we witnessed a surge of publications in high quality international academic journals on contemporary

business issues of China. However, although today the private business sector plays an important role in the nation's economic strength, the history and evolution of entrepreneurship and corporate finance in China remain largely under-examined. Given the unique historical and cultural background of China, we believe such research will contribute to the business history literature that is currently still largely focused on the experiences of Western countries. Such studies could yield interesting insights that could contribute to theories and our understanding of business issues or phenomena today (e.g. Cox, 1997; Lee and Jin, 2009; Liu, 2010). According to a well known ancient Chinese adage: “以铜为镜, 可以正衣冠, 以史为镜, 可以知兴替”. This literally translates to: “Copper can serve as a mirror for us to see that we are properly dressed; the past can serve as a mirror so that we know what is good”. Thus, this call for papers invites studies on this theme. Possible research areas include, but are not limited to the history and evolution of:

- Entrepreneurial or small firms
- Financing issues of entrepreneurial or small firms
- Financial management in entrepreneurial or small firms
- Family-owned businesses
- Institutional reform and its impacts on entrepreneurial finance

We also welcome studies exploring these issues from other regions of Greater China (i.e. Hong Kong or Taiwan) as well as comparative studies of China with **other countries**.

#### **About *Business History*:**

Classified as 4\* (out of 4) in the ABS (Association of Business Schools) Academic Journal Quality Guide, *Business History* is a leading international journal concerned with the long-run evolution and contemporary operation of business systems and enterprises. Its primary purpose is to make available the findings of advanced research, empirical and conceptual, into matters of global significance, such as corporate organization and growth, multinational enterprises, business efficiency, entrepreneurship, technological change, finance, marketing, human resource management, professionalization and business culture. All research articles in this journal are rigorously peer reviewed, based on initial editor screening and anonymized reviewing by at least two referees. It is also included in the Thomson ISI Journal Citation Reports.

(<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/aboutThisJournal?show=aimsScope&journalCode=fbsh20>)

#### **About Pingyao (平遥):**

Pingyao was the original entrepreneurship and corporate finance capital of China during the Ming (1368–1644) and Qing (1644–1911) dynasties. At one time, the financial industry based in this city

comprised of over half of that in the entire country. Pingyao's history dates back 2,700 years, and is one of the best preserved ancient cities in the known world. Today it is an UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The nearest airport is Taiyuan International Airport (about 90km). The conference organizing committee will arrange a shuttle bus from the airport to the conference venue for conference delegates. There is also a train station in Pingyao.

#### **Processes for Submissions:**

Papers submitted must not be under review, accepted for publication, or published in any other journal. By submitting a paper, authors are certifying (a) that the submission is original, unpublished work, (b) that in whole or material part it is not simultaneously under consideration elsewhere. All papers must be written in English, and non-native speakers are advised to have their papers checked by a native speaker. The author(s) should not identify themselves in the body of the paper. In the submission please indicate whether the author(s) would like the paper to be considered for publication in the Special Issue. Interested authors should follow the instruction and guidance of the *Business History* available at

<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?journalCode=fbs20&page=instructions>).

Authors of shortlisted papers will be invited to present at the Special Issue conference in Pingyao. The conference is a venue for developing good journal papers, and acceptance to the conference does not guarantee acceptance into the Special Issue. Papers that are not presented at the conference may be considered for the special issue. Papers will be externally blind reviewed according to standard policy of *Business History*.

#### **All submissions should be sent to:**

**Dr. Wenxuan Hou** ([chinardcentre@gmail.com](mailto:chinardcentre@gmail.com))

Please put "Business History" as the subject heading of the email.

#### **Editing timeline:**

<b>Submission deadline for the Conference</b>	<b>20 May 2013</b>
Notification of acceptance to the Conference	20 June 2013
Special Issue Conference	23-24 August 2013
<b>Submission deadline for the Special Issue</b>	<b>20 October 2013</b>

## References

- Cox, H. 1997. Learning to do business in China: The evolution of BAT's cigarette distribution network, 1902–41. *Business History*, Vol. 39, No. 3, 30–64
- Lee, K. and Jin, X. 2009. The origins of business groups in China: An empirical testing of the three paths and the three theories, *Business History*, Vol. 51, No. 1, 77–99.
- Liu, Y. 2010. Revisiting Hanyeping Company (1889–1908): A case study of China's early industrialization and corporate history, *Business History*, Vol. 52, No. 1, 62–73

