

Shweta Gaonkar

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EDUCATION

PhD Candidate - Strategy
University of Maryland
Minor Field: Economics

Proposal Defended: May 2013
Expected Graduation: May 2014

Bachelor of Engineering
National Institute of Technology Karnataka,
India
Major: Metallurgy and Material Science
GPA: 4.0/4.0

July 2003

RESEARCH (Interests: formation of inter-firm alliance ties, employee entrepreneurship, prior founder affiliation, employee compensation, academic entrepreneurship)

Dissertation Title: The Strategic Network of Entrepreneurial Firm: Impact of Heterogeneity in Founder Background

Committee: Rajshree Agarwal (chair), Waverly Ding, David Sicilia, David Kirsch, Martin Ganco

Dissertation Summary:

My dissertation examines how heterogeneity in founders' background shapes the strategic networks of new firms founded by these entrepreneurs. In the first essay, I examine how the knowledge inherited by employee entrepreneurs shape the strategic networks of these new firms or spinouts. I find that the inheritance of both technical and market knowledge increases the proclivity of the firms to establish ties with firms outside the parent network. On the other hand, spinouts inheriting either technical or market knowledge tend to seek partners within the parent network. The second essay extends this study to examine the impact of academic entrepreneurs in shaping strategic networks. In the last essay, I compare the network structure of firms founded by employee entrepreneurs to those founded by academic entrepreneurs. I use a unique panel data of pharmaceutical and medical device firms from 1986 to 2012 for these studies. The results have important theoretical and practical implications for questions related to what shapes inter-organizational networks of new firms and role of founders in shaping these networks.

Working Papers

Parent Ego Or Alter? Impact Of Knowledge Distance On Spinout Alliance In Pharmaceutical And Medical Device Industry (Job Market Paper)

- Winner of GRID (Graduate Research Interaction Day) Award, First Place, Spring 2013

Shedding Leg Irons: The Impact of Mobility Constraints on High Skilled Immigrant Wages over The Career Life Cycle

- Academy of Management, Showcase Symposium 2010

Small Firms as Sources of Entrepreneurship: The Moderating Effect of Immigration Status

- Winner of Dingman Entrepreneurship Award for Research in progress, Spring 2011

RESEARCH AWARDS AND GRANTS

2013 Ewing Marion Kauffman Dissertation Fellowship

2013 All S.T.A.R Fellowship, FY 2013-14

2013 GRID (Graduate Research Interaction Day) Award, First Place

2013 FIA Seed Grant Award, Semi finalist, Spring 2013 (Project coauthored with Robert Vesco, Dr. David Kirsch and Nick Laurenzano)

2011 Dingman Entrepreneurship Award for Research in Progress, Third Place

2007 Excellence award for coding at Infosys Technologies limited, Feb 2007

2007 Excellence award for successfully delivering the project at Infosys Technologies Limited

2007 Team excellence award at Infosys Technologies limited

PRESENTATION AND INVITED PARTICIPATION

The Strategic Network of Entrepreneurial Firms: Impact of Pre Founding Ties

- 2012 Mid-Atlantic Strategy Colloquium
- 2013 Academy of Management
- 2013 Atlanta Competitive Advantage Conference

Shedding Leg Irons: The Impact of Mobility Constraints on High Skilled Immigrant Wages over The Career Life Cycle

- 2010 Academy of Management as a *showcase symposium*
- 2010 Strategic Management Society Meetings
- 2011 Mid-Atlantic Strategy Colloquium

- 2011 Strategic Management Society IIMC Workshop
- 2011 Mason Entrepreneurship Research Conference
- 2012 Academy of Management
- 2012 Immigration & Entrepreneurship: An Interdisciplinary Conference
- 2012 Society of Government Economists Annual Conference

Small Firms as Sources of Entrepreneurship: The Moderating Effect of Immigration Status

- 2010 Academy of Management, Entrepreneurship consortium

2010 NBER Entrepreneurship Boot Camp, Boston

2011 Kauffman Dissertation Workshop, Chicago

2013 Emerging Scholars Workshop, Mack Center, Wharton

2013 West Coast Research Symposium Doctoral Workshop, Seattle

ACADEMIC SERVICE AND AFFILIATIONS

Reviewing

Ad hoc reviewer

Research Policy, Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal

Academy of Management Meetings: BPS, TIM, ENT divisions

Membership

Academy of Management

Strategic Management Society

Service – Department and College

Strategy and Entrepreneurship Student Representative, 2012-2013

- Managed interface between students and faculty
- Organized recruiting visits for prospective students
- Organized student seminars for summer, fall and spring.

Incoming Student Orientation 2013-2013

- Organized two sessions for incoming students to provide information on\
 - Getting the best from your library: created the session that will be used college wide for orientation sessions, and
 - Department course work requirement (department level)

TEACHING

University of Maryland - Instructor

Summer 2011: BMGT 495, Business Policies and Strategy,

- Rating: 2.93/4.00

Spring 2012: BMGT 495, Business Policies and Strategy

- Rating: 3.48/4.00

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

University of Illinois, Strategy Group
Research Assistant, 2008-2010

Infosys Technologies Ltd, Bangalore, India
Software Engineer, 2005-2008

Indian Institute of Science, Metallurgy Department, Bangalore, India
Research Assistant, 2003-2005

REFERENCES (Note: To receive reference letters as timely as possible, please request them from UMD Coordinator Erica Scarpulla, escarpulla@rhsmith.umd.edu)

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