



News from the Women's Entrepreneurship Committee

January 2009

Happy New Year, Bonne Année, Feliz Año Nuevo, and Saehae Bock Mani ba deu dei yo! (And click [here](#) to learn how to say 'happy new year' in many more languages.)

Here's some news and information we hope that you - as an educator, researcher, practitioner or policymaker interested in women's entrepreneurship - can use in your professional pursuits.

ICSB June 2009 Conference: Call for Papers, Workshops

Have some new results from a recent research study, entrepreneurial education program, or a policy evaluation? Consider sharing it with others in the entrepreneurship field from around the world at the [2009 ICSB conference](#) - which will be held from 21 to 24 June in Seoul, South Korea.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the conference, and [here](#) to submit an abstract for a paper or workshop. The deadline for submitting an abstract is January 16, early bird/discounted conference registration ends on April 30, and accepted papers must be completed and submitted by May 2.

In recent years, the minority and women's entrepreneurship area has generated a growing amount of interest - not only because of the Best Paper Award in Women's Entrepreneurship (see next news item), but because of the level of interest and participation in this Women's Entrepreneurship Committee. We look forward to continuing that trend in Seoul, so please consider submitting an abstract.

We're especially interested in hearing from you "practitioners." Last year's conference had some excellent workshops and presentations from women's business center leaders and policy makers. Don't be daunted by the submissions process - just click on "non-refereed submissions" if you are not an academic researcher. We know that there are



Seoul, Korea
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many of you with new policy or program evaluation results to share - we want to see your contributions right alongside those of you who are academic researchers and educators. *Learn more about the 2009 ICSB Conference [here](#)*

6th Annual Best Paper Award for Women's Entrepreneurship

For the sixth straight year, the ICSB Women's Entrepreneurship Committee is proud to announce an award for the best paper in women's entrepreneurship, which will be presented at the ICSB conference in Seoul. As in the past, the award will consist of a cash prize of \$1,000 USD, and recognition at the conference's awards luncheon.



The award will again be sponsored by the US-based [National Women's Business Council](#), and this year they will be joined by a new award co-sponsor: the newly-launched [International Journal of Gender and Entrepreneurship](#). Awardees, in addition to receiving the cash award, will receive a 1-year subscription to the journal and the winning paper will be considered for publication in the journal.

Winning papers will be judged not only by their clarity of writing, contribution to new or greater understanding, and rigorousness of methodology, but also by how well the findings will impact policy and/or program action in support of women's enterprise. So, if you weren't already considering submitting an abstract for an academic or practitioner paper by January 16 - you should consider doing so now! [Submit an abstract for a paper or workshop here](#).

Looking for Big Ideas

Social networking tools and technology-enabled communications are spawning creative new ways to gather and share stories to inspire women entrepreneurs, to educate entrepreneurship students, and to support global social entrepreneurship. Here are a couple of interesting examples of what we mean:

- The "Hot Mommas Project": An interactive case study tool that allows women entrepreneurs to share their stories of success and struggle to university students studying entrepreneurship, business management, or even other disciplines. Much more interactive and lively than text-book case studies! The project is starting out in the US, but hopes to expand soon internationally. Check it out at hotmommasproject.org.
- World Pulse magazine's "Bold Ideas" contest: Do you (or your students) have a bold idea that will empower women? Share it online and be eligible for mentoring sessions with coaches to help move the idea forward to fruition, and get the idea featured in [World Pulse magazine](#).
- "The Power of Us": The Ashoka Foundation is running a contest - with a \$50,000 USD seed-funding prize - for innovative ways of using new media technology to change the world. Find out more at changemakers.net. The contest is open until January 21. Share your own idea, or nominate a creative idea being developed by

others. The more women's entrepreneurship-focused nominations in the mix, the better from our point of view!

If you know of any other innovative ways that social networks and other Web 2.0 tools are being used to teach entrepreneurship, conduct research, or disseminate new ideas and strategies, please let us know and we will share them with all of you. Or you can also share your ideas directly with others via our own social network on [LinkedIn](#). If you are already "linked in" to the ICSB WEC group, just post news and information directly in our group, and all members will receive an update according to their own frequency settings. If you have not yet signed up for the ICSB-WEC group on the LinkedIn social network, then you may do so by clicking the link below. The more, the merrier - and the more powerful, so get linked in today!

For Your Reference Shelf

Here are links to two reports published this past year that we think you'll want to add to your reference shelf:

- World Economic Forum: Global Gender Gap Report, 2008, published in November 2008
- Global Entrepreneurship Monitor: 2007 Report on Women and Enterprise, published in May 2008

Know of any other reports or research that you'd like to share with other members of the Women's Entrepreneurship Committee? Send them to us.

Calling All Correspondents

We'd like to make sure that we are gathering and sharing the most pertinent information for all of you from all corners of the globe, so if you have any items of interest, please send them along.

In addition, if any of you would like to contribute items on a regular basis - either on a particular topic of your expertise or from your country, region or continent, we welcome all expressions of interest.

Best wishes for a prosperous new year (gung hay fat choy), and we hope to see many of you in Seoul in June.

Yours for women's enterprise development,

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