

## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Academy of Innovation and Entrepreneurship

<http://www.aieconference.org>

### Co-organized by

**National Entrepreneurship Research Centre, Tsinghua University, China**  
**Technology and Management Centre for Development, Oxford University, UK**  
**Canada-China Institute for Business and Development, Ryerson University, Canada**

### Co-Chairs

Dr. Steven Murphy, Dean, Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University

Dr. Jian Gao, Senior Associate Dean, School of Economics and Management, Tsinghua University

Dr. Xiaolan Fu, Director, Technology and Management Centre for Development, Oxford University

### CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Ryerson, Tsinghua and Oxford universities are pleased to announce that the 8th Annual Conference for the Academy of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (#AIE2015) will be held for the first time in beautiful **Toronto, Canada** from **August 20-21, 2015**. The AIE conference was first held in 2008 at Tsinghua University, consistently ranked as one of China's top institutions for higher learning and mentioned in Forbes as building China's next generation of entrepreneurs. The conference has since taken place at the prestigious Oxford University in England. Oxford has promoted entrepreneurship and innovation through its Skoll Center for Social Entrepreneurship and the Technology and Management Centre for Development. A truly international conference, it has attracted more than 1,500 participants from more than 27 countries over the years. This year, conference participants will have the unique opportunity to experience Canada as an innovation nation. Toronto has a vibrant entrepreneurial sector, as exemplified by Ryerson's Digital Media Zone (DMZ), one of the top ranked incubators in the world. Zones under the umbrella of the DMZ include the Center for Urban Energy, Fashion Zone, Design Fabrication Zone, Transmedia Zone, and Social Ventures Zone. Coming in the future are Aerospace, Biomed and Sports Zones and others. The DMZ has internationalized its model to India and will be duplicated in other emerging economies. The multitude of industries represented by the zones and programs at Ryerson University is reflective of the bustling and buzzing city of Toronto, a highly economically diversified city on Lake Ontario. While surrounded by natural beauty, including the Toronto Islands, wine country just south of the city, and the Canadian Shield to the north, Toronto is also diverse and glamorous for its variety of people and events. Known as "Hollywood of the North", especially because it hosts one of the most prestigious film events in the world, the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), many movies are made here. Ryerson even has a Creative Industries program as reflective of our vibrant arts scene. There is no end to things to do in Toronto, even for those of us who live here! The AIE Conference provides a broad platform to convene scholars from around the

world to present research and to stimulate discussions on critical research issues and new developments in Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

### **CONFERENCE THEME:**

#### **Building An Inclusive Entrepreneurship Ecosystem**

The conference has an overarching theme that emphasizes the important role of entrepreneurship in a sustainable innovation ecosystem and the impact of diversity on entrepreneurial development and social innovation. It covers the following topics of interest but is not limited to:

- The role of entrepreneurship in the economic diversification and development process
- New business creation process, incubators, and accelerators
- The role of entrepreneurship in innovation and revitalization of corporations
- Cross-sector partnerships for increasing innovation
- The role of government and public policy in innovation
- The role and effects of education and training on innovation
- University based new ventures and student engagement
- Sustainable entrepreneurship and innovation with a focus on solving environmental issues
- Technology-based venturing and management of technological innovations
- Venture capital, angel investing, and entrepreneurial finance
- Creation and management of family business
- Diversity within innovation and entrepreneurship (e.g., women, immigrants, aboriginal peoples, visible minorities, persons with disability and seniors)
- Social innovation and entrepreneurship
- Technological innovation to bridge rural-urban divides
- International entrepreneurship and “born global” strategies
- Entrepreneurship in and design of innovations for low income or emerging markets

#### **Important Dates**

April 15, 2015	Proposal Deadline
May 15, 2015	Acceptance Notification
June 30, 2015	Final Submissions (including papers, photos and profiles)
August 20-21, 2015	AIE Conference

## Submission

Applicants are invited to submit proposals in two of the following ways:

### 1) Individual proposals that consist of:

Title

Theme(s) addressed

Full contact information

An abstract of your paper consisting of no more than 500 words (2 pages)

An updated CV

### 2) Panel sessions of 3-5 participants that consist of:

Proposed title of the panel session

Theme(s) addressed

A 500 word (2 pages) overview of the main theme(s) discussed in the panel and how each paper interconnects

Full contact information of each participant

Updated CVs for all participants

Please submit your proposal in electronic format (in one Word or PDF document) to <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=aie2015> by April 15 (11:59pm EST).

Proposals received after this time will not be considered. The conference encourages proposals from current and emerging scholars, those in public policy and industry partners. You will be notified electronically of your acceptance no later than May 15.

Presenters whose proposals are accepted for the conference will be invited to submit full papers of no more than 20-25 pages on the topic outlined in your abstract. The best paper selected by the conference committee will win the Best Paper Award co-sponsored by Emerald Publishing and will be considered for publication by the *Journal of Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies*. For more information on the conference please visit <http://www.ryerson.ca/tedrogersschool/conference/aie/> or <http://www.aieconference.org>, and for general help and administrative matters please contact AIE Support at [aie@sem.tsinghua.edu.cn](mailto:aie@sem.tsinghua.edu.cn), or Diana Cucuz at [cuczud@ryerson.ca](mailto:cuczud@ryerson.ca).

