



Call for Papers

“Exploring Entrepreneurial Ventures, Family Firms, and Hidden Champions”
6th International Research Forum on Mittelstand, biennial conference 2020

Track 01: Accounting & Taxation in Family Firms



Mannheim, Germany, May 24th-26th, 2020.

Submissions accepted until January 25th, 2020.

Track Chairs:

Dirk Simons (University of Mannheim, Germany)
Jannis Bischof (University of Mannheim, Germany)
Johannes Voget (University of Mannheim, Germany)
Jan-Klaus Tänzler (University of Mannheim, Germany)
Chris Karlsson (University of Mannheim, Germany)
Tuna Kurtz (University of Mannheim, Germany)

Description of the track

The financial reporting of privately-held firms has traditionally been viewed as opaque (Burgstahler, et al., 2006) and prior research has pointed to high proprietary costs of disclosure (Bernard, et al., 2018). Even though market forces are creating reporting incentives for some of these firms to produce informative financial reports (Bassemir & Novotny-Farkas, 2018; Minnis, 2011; Allee & Yohn, 2009), recent disclosure regulation is increasingly targeting this market segment. The pros and cons of this approach are controversial (Minnis & Shroff, 2017; Leuz & Wysocki, 2016) and little evidence exists on the magnitude of potential externalities of such a regulation (Breuer, 2019). A large number of privately-held firms is characterized by family ownership giving rise to even more of an ambiguous incentive structure (Corten, et al., 2015; Chen, et al., 2008; Wang, 2006).

Lack of data is one of the key reasons for the scarcity of evidence on reporting and taxation decisions by privately-held family firms. This conference track aims to bring together scholars who exploit innovative

methods or interesting data sets to overcome this challenge. Potential topics can include but are by no means limited to:

- Incentives for Voluntary Disclosure
- Externalities and Disclosure Regulation
- Potential Costs of Transparency
- Earnings Management
- Tax Avoidance
- Economic Consequences (e.g., Lending Relationships)

Submissions from all methodological angles (quantitative and qualitative) are welcome.

To submit your paper to the 2020 conference:
<http://www.forum-mittelstandsforschung.de>

Literature:

- (1) Allee, K. & Yohn, T., 2009. The Demand for Financial Statements in an Unregulated Environment: An Examination of the Production and Use of Financial Statements by Privately Held Small Businesses. **The Accounting Review**, 84(1), pp. 1-25.
- (2) Bassemir, M. & Novotny-Farkas, Z., 2018. IFRS adoption, reporting incentives and financial reporting quality in private firms. **Journal of Business Finance & Accounting**, Volume 45, pp. 759-796.
- (3) Bernard, D., Burgstahler, D. & Kaya, D., 2018. Size Management by European Private Firms to Minimize Proprietary Costs of Disclosure. **Journal of Accounting and Economics**, Volume 66, pp. 94-122.
- (4) Breuer, M., 2019. How Does Financial-Reporting Regulation Affect Industry-Wide Resource Allocation?. **Working Paper**.
- (5) Burgstahler, D. C., Hail, L. & Leuz, C., 2006. The Importance of Reporting Incentives: Earnings Management in European Private and Public Firms. **The Accounting Review**, pp. 983-1016.
- (6) Chen, S., Chen, X. & Cheng, Q., 2008. Do Family Firms Provide More or Less Voluntary Disclosure?. **Journal of Accounting Research**, Volume 45, pp. 499-536.
- (7) Corten, M., Steijvers, T. & Lybaert, N., 2015. The demand for auditor services in wholly family-owned private firms: the moderating role of generation. **Accounting and Business Research**, 45(1), pp. 1-26.
- (8) Leuz, C. & Wysocki, P. D., 2016. The Economics of Disclosure and Financial Reporting Regulation: Evidence and Suggestions for Future Research. **Journal of Accounting Research**, 54(2), pp. 525-622.
- (9) Minnis, M., 2011. The Value of Financial Statement Verification in Debt Financing: Evidence from Private U.S. Firms. **Journal of Accounting Research**, Volume 49, pp. 457-506.
- (10) Minnis, M. & Shroff, N., 2017. Why Regulate Private Firm Disclosure and Auditing?. **Accounting and Business Research**, 47(5), pp. 473-502.
- (11) Wang, D., 2006. Founding Family Ownership and Earnings Quality. **Journal of Accounting Research**, Volume 44, pp. 619-656.

The deadline for submissions is 25th January 2020.
Submit your paper [here](#)

