

Foreword

It is a great pleasure to introduce this volume on current research themes and modern challenges in SME (small and medium-sized enterprise) internationalization. Prepared by leading scholars from the Centre for Internationalization and Enterprise Research (CIER) at the University of Glasgow, it contains a collection of original and insightful chapters that were first presented as papers at the launch of CIER in April 2007. While the formation of CIER is a recent development, it has had a long gestation, stretching back more than two decades, as an international network of researchers on small-firm internationalization. Much of the impetus for its development can be attributed to Stephen Young, whose enthusiasm, encouragement and support have provided a catalyst for the foci of several generations of SME internationalization and international entrepreneurship researchers, including many of the present contributors. In singling him out for particular mention, I should also like to commend Marian Jones, Pavlos Dimitratos and Margaret Fletcher for all of their endeavours in putting this volume together and for their strong commitment to advancing enquiry in the field.

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May 2008

