

Acknowledgements

The present book, the sixth volume in the *McGill International Entrepreneurship (MIE) Series*, is the culmination of three sets of efforts that deserve full recognition and deep appreciation. We are thankful for the organizing efforts of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Pavia, Italy, that hosted the 15th Annual McGill International Entrepreneurship Conference in the historic city of Pavia. The conference attracted many international scholars from around the world, ranging from New Zealand and Australia to Chile and Brazil, and reached new scholarly heights. The principal organizers and hosts, three of whom are the co-editors of this volume, ensured that their MIE Conference would propel the field to pass new milestones on the long road of international entrepreneurship scholarship.

The individual and collective research of 22 international entrepreneurship scholars, from Canada to the United Arab Emirates, forms the backbone of this volume without which it would not have been born. In the true spirit of entrepreneurship, these scholars created opportunities and cultivated and nourished their scholarly ventures to fruition. Such efforts typically started with a few pages of extended abstracts that grew into full papers for, and stimulating presentations at, the conference. They also endured two sets of blind peer reviews and the unending demands of editors for modifications or revisions. These chapters explore contemporary issues, evolving relations and dynamic forces that continue to influence entrepreneurial internationalization in global markets. Collectively, these chapters examine progressively more demanding issues and topics that mirror the field of international entrepreneurship, starting with the attributes of entrepreneurs, their activities and efforts within the boundaries of entrepreneurial firms striving to internationalize and compete with much larger multinational enterprises, to devising potent strategies for conducting international business in their environmental context, defined generally by constrained resources, smallness, youth and protective national and international policies. For their clear portrayal of complex challenges facing their focal entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial firms, and their methodical scholarly efforts, they deserve full recognition and appreciation. Chronicling entrepreneurial initiatives that eventually rise above

expectations, across time periods and locations, demands patience, careful documentation, prudent methods and sense-making of embryonic entrepreneurial ideas and efforts that at times are unclear if not chaotic.

It should come as no surprise that Edward Elgar Publishing's well-recognized entrepreneurial orientation has resulted in not only this carefully prepared volume but also in strong support for the entire *McGill International Entrepreneurship Series*, of which this volume is a part, by nourishing each volume from a simple idea to a well-edited book. Many individuals have contributed to the different processes involved, from editing the 12 manuscripts to typesetting and publishing the entire book. Undoubtedly, we will not be able to recognize them all, as some of them did not have direct contact with us. The extensive editorial, production and support staff of Edward Elgar, at their respective offices in the UK and the US, are well known in the industry as consummate professionals. Notable amongst these professionals are the Executive Editor Alan Sturmer, Senior Desk Editor Elizabeth Clack, Editorial Assistant Erin McVicar (and copy-editor Sarah Cook), to whom we are indebted and delighted to have had their support. Without their careful and diligent professional efforts, this volume could not have been a typically Elgar volume.

The Editors of this volume owe gratitude to all individuals and institutions mentioned above and are pleased to recognize their invaluable contributions to this volume.

On behalf of the Editors
Hamid Etemad, McGill University, Montreal
February 2016

