

Acknowledgments

This book is a collective effort by scholars, entrepreneurs, and administrators who are interested in family entrepreneurship in Asia. The editors and the contributors would like to thank Babson College and its staff for supporting the Asia Pacific Consortium of the Global STEP Project. Like many research collaborations, this consortium emerged out of serendipity when Professor Robert Eng, who headed up Asia research and development for Babson, discussed collaboration with the Center for Entrepreneurship of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. With common interest discovered, Professor Tim Habbershon and Robert Nason of the STEP Project then took over and worked with the Center to put together a research workshop. This workshop was fortunate in attracting more than a dozen scholars to come and discuss the theory and method behind the STEP Project. It also stimulated the interest of the attendants to organize a family summit in Asia, building on Babson's experience in similar summits in Europe and South America. After the workshop the scholars conducted research on business families and a year later shared their findings in the first family summit held in Hong Kong. Their studies result in the present volume.

We would like to thank all the families and scholars who came to the workshop and summit. Their support and comments encouraged us in this cross-national endeavor. In particular, Mervyn Morris originated the idea of an edited book and actually drafted the book proposal to the publisher. He worked jointly on a chapter but did not serve as an editor due to time constraints. Roger King, Kuang S. Yeh, T.J. Wong, Joseph Fan, and Bee-leng Chua served as speakers, moderators, and organizers in the Hong Kong workshop and summit. In addition, Hyunsuk Lee and Jangwoo Lee were supportive of the consortium and hosted the second family summit in Seoul. We are also grateful to sponsors and the schools behind the project. Particularly, Prudential Insurance, *Wall Street Journal Asia*, and the *Hong Kong Economic Journal* supported the workshop and summit in Hong Kong. The Indian School of Business organized the first Asian Conference on Family Business to support the STEP scholars in their work. Bond University invited STEP scholars to visit their campus to nurture a collaborative spirit. When we worked on this edited volume, the support and

direction given by Mattias Nordqvist and Thomas M. Zellweger as well as the editorial team of Edward Elgar was invaluable.

This volume is an attempt to stimulate more interest on family business in Asia and hopefully more research will appear in the near future.

KEVIN AU
JUSTIN B. CRAIG
KAVIL RAMACHANDRAN