

Invitation

ORGANIZATIONAL INNOVATION: THEORY, PRACTICE, AND POLICY

The aim of the symposium is to provide an overview of research, actions, and prospects that are shaped for organizational innovation in Cyprus, and to bridge theory, practice, and policy on organizational innovation.

Friday
19 November, 2021
17:00 - 21:00

Amphitheater 1
Tassos Papadopoulos Building
Cyprus University of Technology
Themidos and Ifigenias Corner
Limassol



Cyprus
University of
Technology

The Department of Hotel and Tourism Management of the Cyprus University of Technology invites you in the symposium on:

Organizational Innovation: Theory, Practice, and Policy

Program:

17:00-17:10	REGISTRATION AND WELCOME
17:10-18:00	ORGANIZATIONAL INNOVATION THEORY Prof. Shlomo Tarba , University of Birmingham Dr Michael Christofi , Lecturer - Cyprus University of Technology
18:00-19:00	INNOVATION PRACTICE Angela Panayiotou , Manager of Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center - Bank of Cyprus Maria Markidou Georgiadou , Managing Director of Cyprus Seeds
19:00-19:30	INNOVATION POLICY Dr Nikolas Mastrogiannopoulos , Chief Scientist of the Republic of Cyprus
19:30-20:20	DISCUSSION: "BRIDGING INNOVATION THEORY, POLICY, AND PRACTICE" Moderator: Panis Pieri , Founder & Chief Editor - Startups364 Panelists: Maria Evripides , Founder & CEO - BookYourWeddingDay.com Angela Panayiotou , Manager of Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center - Bank of Cyprus Maria Markidou Georgiadou , Managing Director of Cyprus Seeds Dr Elias Hadjielias , Assistant Professor Cyprus University of Technology
20:20 – 21:00	RECEPTION AND NETWORKING Coordinators: Dr Elias Hadjielias and Dr Michael Christofi , Cyprus University of Technology

Book your free seat on Eventbrite [here](#)

Entry will be allowed for vaccinated individuals or Covid recovering individuals, in line with the decision of the senate of the Cyprus University of Technology

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Bios of Speakers and Panelists



Dr Nikolas Mastroyiannopoulos has extensive experience and a doctorate from the University of Bristol, UK. in Biomedical research, Molecular and Cellular Biology. He also has a degree in Biomedical Sciences from the UWE University, UK. He has been working in the Department of Molecular Genetics, Function and Therapy at the Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics from 2006 and in 2012, he was appointed Lecturer and later Assistant Professor at the Cyprus School of Molecular Medicine (CSMM) and has supervised numerous, MSc, Ph.D. candidates and postdoctoral fellows. Dr Mastroyiannopoulos has been working in various basic and translational biomedical research projects with academic and commercial value for over 15 years. His research focused on developing Gene Therapeutic approaches for Muscular Dystrophies and genetic heart disorders. He has established National and international collaborations with various academic and research institutions around the world, as well as a solid publication record with several peer-review publications and book chapters with considerable citations. Dr Mastroyiannopoulos has attracted a number of grants in his field as principle investigator or collaborator from National and international funding bodies as well as private initiatives. He has also served as an Elected Board Member of the Cyprus Society of Human Genetics as well as a National representative, in a number of European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) actions. On March 4th, 2020 Dr Mastroyiannopoulos was appointed Chief Scientist of Research and Innovation by H.E. the President of the Republic of Cyprus.



Angela Panayiotou is leading the Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center of the Bank of Cyprus, having the responsibility for 4 Organizations: IDEA Innovation Center & largest Incubator Accelerator for Startups, the Business Academy developing financial & digital literacy in SMEs, the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation with an impressive 36-year record of disseminating & researching the heritage of Cyprus and ARIS startups incubator in Limassol (co-owned with Deloitte Cyprus). With a diverse 21-years career in banking in Cyprus & abroad, has been involved in intra-preneurship. Angela is a trainer, coach, mentor & advisor to young entrepreneurs from idea stage to revenues & investment. With frequent presence in the Media, is a speaker, judge and panelist in Cyprus & abroad, having led several delegations abroad. Angela holds a BSc in Financial Services University of Manchester, a BBA in Business Administration, & an MBA – University of Birmingham. She has received extensive training through US State Department on SMEs, is a Certified Islamic Finance Executive™ ETHICA – AAOFI & has received training in Economic Diplomacy – Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Angela is a strong supporter of women empowerment & fiercely promotes equal opportunities in entrepreneurship. Angela is a member of the Board of Directors of several organizations: Cyprus Investment Promotion Agency CIPA – Invest Cyprus, the Bank of Cyprus Cultural Foundation and IDEA Innovation Center. Also, is a member of several Advisory Boards: ARIS Incubator, European University Cyprus EUC – PEAK Innovation Center and the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor GEM Cyprus - University of Cyprus - Center for Entrepreneurship C4E. In 2021 she has been awarded with the 'Woman of the Year Madame Figaro Award' in the prestigious category of 'Businesswoman/Professional', voted by both the public & the experts. In 2019 she has received on behalf of IDEA, the 1st European Award by the European Commission after having competed with 29 countries.



Maria Evripides has more than 20 years of experience in the hotel and tourism industry in Cyprus and abroad. After successfully completing her studies in Hotel and International Tourism Management, she was awarded the CIPR by the Chartered Institute of Public Relations in London. Prior to founding BookYourWeddingDay.com, Maria had the role of the Group Sales Manager for one of the leading hotel chains in Cyprus for 10 years. During that period, she developed the destination wedding market. With a focus on the development of the market for a decade, it was this understanding of the obstacles facing travel agents and wedding couples that prompted her to develop BookYourWeddingDay.com as a valuable tool for travel agents and couples, but also to support hotels and local authorities to tap into the wedding tourism market. Moreover, it was this understanding that boosted her in order to transform her idea into this unique service named BookYourWeddingDay.com for the benefit of the European citizens and not only. The state-of-the-art platform was launched in Cyprus and Greece initially, and is still the only one of its kind in the world for overseas weddings. Maria was awarded the Woman of the Year in the Innovation Category for the year of 2017 at Madame Figaro Awards in Cyprus. Her globally innovative project BookYourWeddingDay.com was a nominee at the Globe Travel Awards in London and also attracted and continues to attract media coverage on a regular basis due to its achievements – such as the partnerships with the big Tour Operators in the UK including TUI, the global expansion, the 15.000-bookings milestone in September 2021, and much more. Maria's latest achievement includes being selected along 37 other countries by Forbes US to be featured in the October/November 2021 issue representing Cyprus.



Maria Markidou Georgiadou, is the Managing Director of Cyprus Seeds, responsible for the design and implementation of the program. Between 2014 and 2017, Maria was a full-time consultant with Bank of Cyprus in matters relating to innovation and entrepreneurship, in this capacity, she initiated and coordinated IDEA, the first Accelerator-Incubator Program in Cyprus which supports the creation of Cypriot start-ups Maria has 25 years of experience with the Cyprus Development Bank. At cdbbank, she headed for 8 years the International Banking Unit, she set up the EU Unit of the bank and attracted EU grants for SMEs in Cyprus. During her last 3 years at the Bank, she was Head of Business Development & Marketing of the cdb Group. Prior to joining cdbbank, Maria worked in the European Commission in Brussels for one year. She is an evaluator for the HORIZON 2020 program, SME Instrument, which supports the commercialization of innovative research. For the last 12 years, she is one of the two partners of the World Economic Forum in Cyprus for the production of its annual Global Competitiveness Report. Maria studied in the US, with Fulbright scholarship, and got a Master's degree in Economics from the University of Oxford, UK.



Prof. Shlomo Tarba, is Chair (Full Professor) in Strategy and International Business at the University of Birmingham, UK. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences. He served as Head of Department of Strategy & International Business at the Business School, University of Birmingham, UK between August 2015 and September 2018. Prof. Tarba is a member of the editorial boards of Journal of International Business Studies, Journal of Management Studies, Journal of Product Innovation Management, and Journal of World Business. Prof. Tarba has previously served as a Co-Editor-in-Chief and Deputy Editor-in-Chief of British Journal of Management (ABS 4, Impact factor 7.138). Prof. Tarba served as a guest-editor for special issues at Journal of Organizational Behavior, Human Resource Management (US), Management International Review, Journal of International Management, International Business Review California Management Review, Long Range Planning, R&D Management, Technological Forecasting & Social Change, and others. His research interests include digitization, resilience, agility, ambidexterity, and mergers and acquisitions. Prof. Tarba's papers are published in premier journals such as Journal of Management (SAGE), Journal of Product Innovation Management, Journal of Organizational Behavior, Human Resource Management (US), Human Relations, Journal of World Business, Academy of Management Perspectives, Journal of Corporate Finance, and others. One of his papers has been selected and published in Best Paper Proceedings of the Academy of Management (USA) in 2006. His consulting experience includes biotechnological and telecom companies, as well as industry associations such as The Israeli Rubber and Plastic Industry Association, and The US – Israel Chamber of Commerce.



Panis Pieri is a startup journalist and entrepreneur with 18+ years multidisciplinary hands-on experience in digital marketing, media, startups, events, networking and innovation. He is the founder of Startups364. The last ten years he mentored 300+ startups (pro-bono) on go-to-market strategies and product development. Furthermore, he connects startups with his private investor network. He is the host of EcoX Cyprus. #EcoXCyprus is a free networking event connecting startups, investors, techies, crypto enthusiasts, entrepreneurs and corporate executives in Cyprus. Among others he is advising startups on growth tactics. His message "Keep innovating. Always create a positive impact.". Connect with Panis at www.panispieri.com



Dr Elias Hadjielias is Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship and co-director of BSc in Management at Cyprus University of Technology. He is currently co-chair of the Family Business Strategic Interest Group (FABR-SIG) of the European Academy of Management and member of the parallel parliament for entrepreneurship of the Republic of Cyprus. Over the past decade, Dr Hadjielias co-founded several impactful entrepreneurial programs that bridge education and practice, including the Business Idea Competition, Ideodromio, Live Case @ CUT, The Ultimate Pitch, and Idea Factory, amongst other. His academic research includes topics such as collective entrepreneurship, family business entrepreneurship, social and psychological perspectives in family businesses and SMEs, international entrepreneurship, and innovation. Elias won various awards for his research work and academic service and has published scientific articles in international prestigious journals, such as Annals of Tourism Research, International Business Review, Journal of Business Research, Technological Forecasting and Social Change, Human Resource Management Review, International Marketing Review, and International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior and Research, and others. Dr. Hadjielias has also served and serves as a Guest-editor of special issues at leading journals such as British Journal of Management, Journal of Business Research, Technovation, Technological Forecasting and Social Change, Journal of Business Ethics, International Marketing Review, International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior and Research, and European Journal of Marketing.



Dr Michael Christofi is a Lecturer in Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Cyprus University of Technology. His research interests lie on the interface of innovation, marketing and entrepreneurship, marketing innovation, technological innovations and well-being, corporate philanthropy, strategic agility, and organizational ambidexterity. His research work has been published in premier publication outlets, such as in British Journal of Management, Journal of World Business, Journal of Business Research, Technological Forecasting & Social Change, International Journal of Human Resource Management, International Business Review, European Management Review, and International Marketing Review, among others. He has also co-authored several book chapters and won various awards for his research work and academic service. Dr. Christofi has served and serves as a guest-editor for 19 special issues at leading journals such as, British Journal of Management, Technovation, Journal of Business Ethics, International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior and Research, European Journal of Marketing, Journal of Business Research, Technological Forecasting & Social Change, International Marketing Review, and European Management Journal, among others