

ANNOUNCEMENT & CALL FOR PAPERS

21th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON REAL OPTIONS

Boston, USA, June 28 – July 1, 2017

*Organized by
Real Options Group and Suffolk University*

in cooperation with King's College London, Northwestern University and UCLA

Submission deadline: January 26, 2017

AIM: To bring together academics and practitioners at the forefront of real options and decision making under uncertainty to discuss recent developments and applications. The conference features academic and professional presentations of theoretical and applied work, workshops and case discussions, experiences from the field and panel discussions.

TOPICS: Any paper on the theory or application of real options. Possible topics include: R&D, entrepreneurship and innovation, new product development, capabilities, infrastructure and network (tel, power) investments, valuation of natural resources, commodities and power investments, growth options, competition and strategy, corporate valuation and IPOs, investments involving learning, agency issues and incentives, public infrastructure, environment and public policy, case studies etc. We expect to have sessions on telecoms, oil/energy, innovation, and various public policy issues. We are generally interested in applied or empirical papers, and case studies in these and various other industries.

Special emphasis this year in Boston on: **Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Venture Capital**

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

2017 Nalin Kulatilaka (Boston U.) & Bruce Kogut (Columbia U.)
2016 Peter Kort & Kuno Huisman (Tilburg U.)
2015 Bart Lambrecht (U. Cambridge)
2014 Marco Dias (Petrobras)
2013 Lenos Trigeorgis (U. Cyprus)
2012 Avinash Dixit (Princeton U.)
2011 Dean Paxson (U. Manchester)
2010 John Kensinger (U. North Texas)
2009 Michael J. Brennan (U. Manchester)
2008 Tom Copeland (MIT)
2007 Mark Rubinstein (U.C. Berkeley)
2006 Robert C. Merton (Harvard U.)
2005 Robert S. Pindyck (MIT)
2004 Stewart C. Myers (MIT)
2003 Alex Triantis (U. Maryland)
2002 Gordon Sick (U. Calgary)
2001 Eduardo Schwartz (UCLA)
2000 Myron Scholes (Stanford U.)
1999 Stephen A. Ross (MIT)
1998 Robert L. McDonald (Northwestern U.)
1997 Michael J. Brennan (UCLA)

SUBMISSION: Please register on the conference website by filling the paper submission form at www.realoptions.org and submit a (nearly) completed paper or detailed abstract by **January 26, 2017**. The online submissions form provides a way for you to submit an Adobe® Acrobat® PDF file. The title page should include the affiliation, address, phone, and e-mail of each author.

REVIEW & PUBLICATION: Submitted papers will be reviewed by a committee headed by Professors Lenos Trigeorgis (U. Cyprus & KCL, UK), Gordon Sick (U. Calgary, Canada), Dean Paxson (U. Manchester, UK), Sigbjorn Sodal (Agder U., Norway), Luiz Brandao (PUC/Rio, Brazil), John Kensinger (U. North Texas), Afzal Siddiqui (University College London, UK) and Stein-Erik Fleten (NTNU).

BEST STUDENT PAPER AWARD: Submissions for best papers by Ph.D. students are encouraged. Interested students should submit a complete draft via the Real Options Conference Website by the same deadline and indicate they wish to be considered for the best student paper award. Papers should be no more than thirty pages in length and be written only by the student (or at most co-authored with a single supervisor). Submissions will be assessed by a panel headed by Prof. Afzal Siddiqui, UCL. In advance of the conference, authors of the top three papers will be notified and asked to present their work in a special session during the conference. The winner of the best student paper will be announced during the conference and receive an award of US\$500.

REGISTRATION & EXPENSES:

Academic or Corporate: US\$500 or equivalent in Euro by April 18; Euro 500 thereafter.

Registration fees go up by 20% after April 18. No fees can be waived for presenters.

DISCUSSANT: Submission of a paper is with the understanding that one of the authors will present at the conference as well as serve as a discussant. Each academic paper will be discussed by an assigned discussant.

VENUE: The conference will take place in downtown Boston, with the academic part taking place at Suffolk University's superb central downtown facilities.

ORGANIZERS: Lenos Trigeorgis (U. Cyprus, KCL, MIT & ROG) and Shahriar Khaksari (Suffolk U.).
VP Planning for Managerial part: Sarah von Helfenstein (Value Analytics and Design).
VP Program: Gordon Sick (U. Calgary).

NOTIFICATION & INQUIRIES: paper acceptance and a detailed program description will be communicated later to all those registered by April 18. For more information, on-line registration or previous years' programs see the real options conference website www.realoptions.org Please address all registration and other conference-related inquiries to conference.registration@realoptions.org For local inquiries, contact Lenos Trigeorgis (lenos@mit.edu) or Shahriar Khaksari (SKhaksari@suffolk.edu).

INNOVATION, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND VENTURE CAPITAL. Academics (only) attending this conference are entitled to receive a 50% discount on the related back-to-back managerial conference on *Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Venture Capital: Uncertainty, Flexibility and Real Options* on Wednesday June 28, 2017 in downtown Boston. Entrepreneurs, VCs and other investors, company executives, consultants or specialized experienced academics interested to share their application experiences as presenters or panelists at the managerial conference should contact the organizers via the conference website or email a proposal to Lenos Trigeorgis at lenos@mit.edu