

Call for Papers: *New England Journal of Entrepreneurship*

Special Issue – *Transitional Entrepreneurship:*

The Case of Veteran, Immigrant, Minority, and Economically Distressed Communities

Guest Editors

- Golshan Javadian, Morgan State University
- Anil Nair, Old Dominion University
- Kaveh Moghaddam, University of Houston, Victoria
- Li-Wei Chen, Old Dominion University
- David Ahlstrom, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Younggeun Lee, California State University, Los Angeles

Entrepreneurship is not only a critical driver of economic growth and social development (Ahlstrom, Chang, & Cheung, 2019; McCloskey, 2010), but also can represent a life-changing transition for most, if not all, of the entrepreneurs themselves. The term *transitional entrepreneurship* thus refers to entrepreneurship among members of communities who were able to overcome significant adversity to launch new ventures as pathways to substantive life transitions (Nair & Chen, 2021). Therefore, the goal of this special issue is to draw attention to the entrepreneurial endeavors of the following communities: veterans, immigrants and refugees, women and minorities, individuals from economically distressed communities, and other historically marginalized groups. In doing so, we aim to further examine and describe the concept of transitional entrepreneurship.

Veteran Entrepreneurs. While there are more than 2.5 million military veteran-owned businesses in the USA, they are extremely understudied in the entrepreneurship field (Nair & Chen, 2021). As military personnel are accustomed to situations with life-threatening risks, it is expected that they would be prepared to readily take on the risks associated with starting new ventures. However, the military environment significantly differs from the entrepreneurial environments. While the military environment entails working within a hierarchical structure with clear instructions and procedures, the entrepreneurship process is full of uncertainty and surprises. Such similarities and differences between the military and entrepreneurship environments make the study of veteran entrepreneurs interesting (Cater & Young, 2020). More research is needed in this domain to understand how military experience helps and/or hurts new venture creation process, and how transitions to entrepreneurial careers impact veterans' lives.

Immigrant and Refugee Entrepreneurs. While some immigrants may have resources to start business and exploit opportunities in their new countries, most immigrants and refugees are forced into necessity entrepreneurship because they lack either qualifications or skills (e.g., language) to enter the job market (Chrysostome, 2010). Besides the language and resource disadvantage, immigrants and refugees do not have sufficient cultural knowledge of the new country and are expected to suffer from liabilities of foreignness (Zaheer, 1995). However, immigrant entrepreneurs are also likely to have opportunities because of their networks in diasporas in the host country that makes it possible for them to get support from their ethnic groups (Moghaddam, Rustambekov, Weber, & Azarpanah, 2018; Simarasl, Moghaddam, & Williams, 2021). In addition to motives, some studies have focused on the impact of culture on opportunity recognition (Moghaddam, Tabesh, Weber, & Azarpanah, 2017b) and other studies have examined business startup processes such as start-up financing (Moghaddam, Aidov, DuVal, & Azarpanah, 2017a) and cross border activities (Drori, Honig, & Wright, 2009). There are still many important questions that needs further exploration. How entrepreneurship influences immigrants and refugees? Does entrepreneurship change social embeddedness of immigrants and refugees? How do venture creation processes of immigrant entrepreneurs differ from that of native-born entrepreneurs?

Women and Minority Entrepreneurs. A wide range of questions have been examined in the context of women and minority entrepreneurship, including motives, success factors, access to capital, and their risk-taking tendencies (Javadian & Modarresi, 2020; Javadian, Opie, & Parise, 2018). It would be interesting to examine how entrepreneurship influences the quality of life of women and minorities. Therefore, more research is needed on the effect of entrepreneurship on various economic and social status of women and racial minority groups.

Entrepreneurs from Economically Distressed Communities. Individuals from economically distressed communities lack not only financial capital, but also social and human capital. Such resource scarcity put them at a disadvantage in the regular job market, hence, entrepreneurship, serves as a viable career choice (Sutter, Bruton, & Chen, 2019). Therefore, we would bring attention to entrepreneurship in, and by members of economically distressed communities and call for examining entrepreneurship in such communities and how it could be a pathway out of poverty and spur economic development.

Submission and Review Process

The submission deadline is **August 15th, 2022**. Papers will be screened by the guest editors, and those deemed suitable will be sent to at least two reviewers. It is highly encouraged that authors submit their manuscript to the ODU Colloquium on Transitional Entrepreneurship to receive feedback; however, submission to the colloquium is neither a requirement nor a guarantee for publication in the NEJE special issue. Manuscripts must apply the NEJE's general author guidelines, such as style and paper length. We welcome newly introduced types of articles: Research Note and Practitioner Note. All papers must go through the journal's online submission portal (<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/neje>). Authors should select 'SI: Transitional Entrepreneurship' option when submitting their manuscript.

Key Deadlines

Submission open: January 15th, 2022

Submission deadline: **August 15th, 2022**

For any questions, please contact the guest editors Golshan Javadian (golshan.javadian@morgan.edu), Anil Nair (anair@odu.edu), Kaveh Moghaddam (moghaddamk@uhv.edu), Li-Wei Chen (l3chen@odu.edu), David Ahlstrom (ahlstrom@baf.cuhk.edu.hk), or Younggeun Lee (ylee16@calstatela.edu).

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