

Exchange Week for foreign visiting professors
8 - 12 April 2024
Iscte, Lisbon

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Country Austria

Brief CV

I graduated from Innsbruck University, Austria with a PhD in Social Sciences and received my post-doctoral lecturing qualification at the Catholic University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt, Germany. Currently I am Professor and Head of the Family Business Center as well as Head of Research in the field of Management and Society at MCI | The Entrepreneurial School ®. From 2007-2015 I was Deputy Head of the tourism bachelor and master programs. I was Adjunct Professor at the University of Canberra, Australia from 2013 to 2015, and Adjunct Professor at University of Notre Dame, Sydney from 2016 to 2018. I served as Vice-President of the German Association for Tourism Research (DGT) and was Member of the Tourism Advisory Board of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Energy, Germany. From 2016 to 2017 I was tourism expert at the Committee of Regions at the European Union. My research interests are diverse, currently I focus on entrepreneurship as well as family business management.

On-going research topic

Succession Intentions - next generation of family firm leaders

Relevant publications

Zehrer, A., Leiß, G., Krusekopf, C., & Wilsonmah, R. (2020). The Peak Hotel – The Challenge of Succession and Family Firm Continuity. *The International Journal of Instructional Cases*, 4, 1-9.

Leiß, G., & Zehrer, A. (2018). Intergenerational communication in family firm succession. *Journal of Family Business Management*, 8(1), 75-90.
<https://doi.org/10.1108/JFBM-09-2017-0025>

Muskat, B., & Zehrer, A. (2017). A power perspective on knowledge transfer in internal succession of small family businesses. *Journal of Small Business & Entrepreneurship*, 29(5), 333-350.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/08276331.2017.1345208>

Topic of lecture for the students

Entrepreneurship in Family Firms

Outline of lecture for the students

Managing a family business is about special problems and issues that confront family businesses. The course will explore the three systems of a family business, the family system, the business system and the ownership system and their interactions – functional and dysfunctional. Participants will be introduced to the basic issues, concepts and theories to understand family businesses, and guided through the structures and procedures for successful family enterprises by discussing a couple of case studies together. Thus, students will ... develop an understanding of the characteristics of family businesses and their dynamics and special issues ... appreciate the dynamic interaction of family, ownership and business systems ... understand the challenges of family businesses including the most important challenge succession planning ... learn about governance mechanisms in family businesses ... understand internationalization and

growth strategies of family firms ... learn about the innovation–tradition
paradigm in family firms