

**JOINT 8TH AFRICA BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
& 14TH MAKERERE LEADERSHIP AND  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONFERENCE**

**The Big Emerging Continent:  
The Rise of Africa – Challenges and Opportunities**

**October 4-7, 2017**

**DEADLINE EXTENDED**

**Abstract Submission Deadline:** June 30, 2017

**Early Registration Fee Due:** June 30, 2017

Hotel Reservation Due (to guarantee hotel room and conference rate)

**Full Papers Due:** August 31, 2017

## **Call for papers**

Africa Business and Entrepreneurship Research Society (ABERS) and Virginia Commonwealth University's Center for International Business Advancement (CIBA) jointly with the VCU School of Business, the Martin J. Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University, the Faculty of Business Administration of Laval University, Makerere University Business School, and other partner institutions will host the association's eighth annual Africa Business and Entrepreneurship Conference on October 4-7, 2017 at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia, USA

**Conference special events and sessions for participants include the following:**

**VCU International Business Forum – Doing Business in Africa:** The explicit purpose of Virginia Commonwealth University's Annual International Business Forum (see [www.ciba.vcu.edu](http://www.ciba.vcu.edu)) is to make students, faculty and the community at – large more aware of global commerce and the related international forces that shape our world. VCU, as the host of the 8<sup>th</sup> Africa Business and Entrepreneurship Conference, will feature the 2017 VCU International

Business Forum during the conference. The VCU IB Forum will take place on the VCU campus from 3:30 – 5:30 pm on October 5, 2017 followed by a reception for all attendees. The Forum will feature a panel of leading scholars and practitioners who will discuss African business opportunities and challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Pharmaceutical Industry and Social Entrepreneurship:** The VCU School of Engineering's Medicines for All initiative has strong implications for social entrepreneurship in bringing low-cost drugs to Africa. Dr. Frank Gupton, Chair of the VCU Department of Chemical Engineering, has involved business language and intercultural communication experts in his work to bring low-cost medicines to Africa. In a plenary session, he will address his work with the Gates Foundation and the Clinton Foundation to develop low-cost drugs to be produced and distributed through African manufacturers and supply chains. There will be opportunities for participants to discuss how a model for low-cost medicines now being developed in Côte d'Ivoire might apply to their interests in social entrepreneurship, including ways to collaborate with those in their institutions and countries that do related scientific research and intercultural communication. Discussions will focus on developing a network of African universities to work with North American and European partners in the Medicines for All initiative.

**Solar Energy and Environmental Entrepreneurship:** Namibian consul to the United States Mr. Larry Morgan, President of Nations Roof ("Nations"), promotes social entrepreneurship through two African subsidiaries, including Nations Solar which manufactures and installs Off Grid Clean Water Purification Pumps in Africa, and Nations EnerGen which designs, manufactures and installs Nano-Grid and Micro-Grid energy systems in West Africa. Nations has several projects that promote entrepreneurship in collaboration with the Population Council (promoting empowerment of women in Africa), Power Africa, and USAID as well as several African governments. Nations and its partners promote employment of women and girls in entrepreneurship in each of their initiatives while collaborating with foundations, non-profits, and universities. Participants in this special session will have concrete opportunities to interact with researchers, foundations, non-profits, practitioners, and students involved in experiential learning. This session represents an extension of the concept of "doing well while doing good," with a focus on applied research and entrepreneurship in Africa.

**Social Justice and Entrepreneurship:** In this session, a panel of women leaders of non-profits in Africa and the United States will present their initiatives related to the empowerment of women and girls as entrepreneurs. They will look specifically at the broader issue of how entrepreneurship can provide higher-paying jobs that increase the tax base and help to bring peace, prosperity, and social cohesion to Africa.

**Language and Culture:** This bilingual English and French conference will serve as a forum to discuss and present current work on business and entrepreneurship in Africa across the disciplines. VCU French-speaking students and French-speaking conference staff will assist with the events, which will involve scholars from business fields, the humanities, the social sciences and the sciences, as well as practitioners and policy makers from around the world.

**Call for Papers: Authors are invited to submit in English or in French original, unpublished manuscripts** that address any aspect of business and entrepreneurship directly or indirectly related to Africa. Manuscripts may focus solely on one country, comparisons between countries or cross-border entrepreneurship or businesses. Case studies are also welcome.

Best papers will be recognized for special awards and selected papers will be published in the *Journal of Africa Business and Entrepreneurship Research (JABER)*, the *Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship* or the *Transnational Corporations Review (TNCR)*. Please visit the conference website ([www.africabusiness.org](http://www.africabusiness.org)) for guidelines on submitting your abstract, full paper or panel session proposal and for information on the Best Paper Competition. Please address any request to [conference@africabusiness.org](mailto:conference@africabusiness.org). **Papers in English or French will be considered for publication.**

POSSIBLE AREAS OF STUDY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- Foundations promoting entrepreneurship in Africa
- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and government promotion of entrepreneurship in Africa
- Connecting research and entrepreneurship in Africa
- Language, culture, and entrepreneurship
- Doing business in Africa: public policy options for a business-enabling environment
- Entrepreneurship and healthcare
- Entrepreneurship and technology
- Entrepreneurship and clean energy
- Entrepreneurship and social justice
- Entrepreneurship and processing of raw materials
- Intercultural communication and business
- Business education and foreign languages
- University partnerships and entrepreneurs
- Entrepreneurship education
- Business incubation/accelerators
- Business financing: venture capital, private equity, banks, capital markets, angel investors, crowdfunding, microfinance...
- Chinese and Indian business engagement with Africa
- The Diaspora investment, remittances and entrepreneurship
- Small and medium-sized enterprises, and microenterprises
- Social entrepreneurship
- Youth and entrepreneurship
- Rural entrepreneurship
- Marketing, HR or supply chain management
- Other topics appropriate for this conference

**Hotel information: -- Rates forthcoming – December 2016 – January 2017.**

The Graduate Richmond (opening June 2017)  
301 West Franklin Street  
Richmond, VA 23220  
(804) 644.9871  
[www.Graduaterichmond.com](http://www.Graduaterichmond.com)  
Walking distance to conference.

The Holiday Inn  
201 E Cary St  
Richmond, VA 23219  
(804) 788-1600  
Free hotel shuttle to conference

The Crowne Plaza Hotel  
555 E Canal St,  
Richmond, VA 23219  
(804) 788-0900  
Free hotel shuttle to conference

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