Letter from the President

As both President of the Small Business Institute® and Co-Editor of the Small Business Institute® Journal (SBIJ), I am very pleased to announce the release of the fall issue (Volume 8, Issue 2). The Small Business Institute® has a long tradition of outstanding research and SBIJ is one of the organization’s outlets to showcase these efforts (along with the Journal of Small Business Strategy). These journals complement the programming efforts of the Small Business Institute® and feature research that is relevant to academics, practitioners, and policy makers.

This issue provides our members and the academic community with five manuscripts that further build the research base in the field of entrepreneurship and small business management. These manuscripts offer an important contribution to the literature, as well as significant practical implications and new avenues for future research. A key contribution of the SBIJ is that it provides an outlet for diverse types of research, including empirical, conceptual, and pedagogical research, as well as case studies and teaching cases. As the premier organization dedicated to field-based student consulting and outreach to small businesses, the SBI continues to offer valuable publication opportunities for our members.

I want to offer a sincere thanks to everyone involved in making this journal a success, particularly the authors and reviewers who work tirelessly to ensure a peer review process that is timely and collegial. I also want to thank the College of Business at East Carolina University for hosting the SBIJ. The combined efforts of these key contributors allow SBIJ to continue to enhance the research profile of the Small Business Institute®.

In closing, I want to encourage you to consider this journal as an outlet for your future research. The submission and review process features a user-friendly on-line portal. Also, please visit the SBI website to learn more about our organization (www.smallbuisnessinstitute.biz).

Michael L. Harris, National President
Small Business Institute®

Letter from the Editors

With just a quick glance at a local or national newspaper or with just a few strokes on the computer or smartphone keypad, anyone can see that small business is a hot topic in the realms of politics, finance, and just about every other area of life. As we offer the fall 2012 issue of the Small Business Institute® Journal, we hope that you will find resources in these articles for your academic or small business efforts.

This edition covers a variety of topics that once again will appeal to a very diverse and varied readership. We begin with an examination of creativity within individual entrepreneurs followed by an article that utilizes an institutional context, as well as the resource based view, to develop theory concerning the professionalization of family firms in developing and developed economies. Following this we examine survival rates of new firms as well as the motivation behind small CPA-practitioners efforts. We conclude with an exploratory study of entrepreneurship accelerator companies, which should be of great interest for entrepreneurs, entrepreneur educators, and program directors.

We would like to extend our thanks to the multiple reviewers and authors who have contributed to the quality and outcome of this edition of the Small Business Institute® Journal. The success of this journal is of course dependent upon their hard work as well as the continual inflow of manuscripts related to small business. For information about submitting your work for consideration in the SBIJ, please visit the journal website at http://www.sbij.org.

William C. McDowell, Michael L. Harris, & Shanan G. Gibson
Editorial Team