



GLOBAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear member,

Welcome to the community of the GACEINN!

I very warmly invite you to interact with us and benefit from the diverse opportunities our community offers to all GACEINN members. It is our continuous objective to provide you with top class offers that allow for a better understanding of entrepreneurship, innovation and MSMEs.

Rarely has the need for new ways of thinking been more glaring. From the sluggish economic growth and financial instability of the last several years to the perennial issues of political upheaval, resource crises, hunger, poverty, and disease (especially the recent COVID 19), people have come to realise that the old ways of doing things no longer work. Whether one lives in the developed or the developing world, the fates of Asians, Africans, Europeans, and everyone on the planet are inextricably linked.

We are in desperate need of a fundamental transformation of social, economic, and cultural arrangements. The old paradigm of government aid is simply inadequate to the challenge. What we need instead are creative and innovative solutions for fostering sustainable growth, securing jobs, and increasing competitive abilities.

What Makes a Truly Prosperous Society?

GACEINN's motto is **“retooling entrepreneurship for inclusive and sustainable prosperity”** Prosperity can be defined as a successful, flourishing, or thriving condition, especially in financial respects. How, then, does one define a prosperous society? And how does one measure whether a society is prosperous? If we are talking about economic prosperity, we can readily invoke the classical macro-economic measure of GDP.

Measuring a prosperous society as a whole, however, is more complex. To describe a society as truly prosperous, we must see several other elements besides robust GDP growth, such as peace and happiness, economic and financial well-being, and individual freedoms and liberties. In other words, a prosperous society consists of economic prosperity and social prosperity combined.

A standard of a prosperous society is the United States in the two decades following World War II. During this time the country enjoyed strong economic growth coupled with several significant new industries, including electronics, aviation, plastics, and frozen foods.

Creativity may be about fun and games, but it is also America's single greatest comparative advantage in an increasingly competitive global marketplace. My interest, however, lies in the connection between creativity and national prosperity. Creativity and innovation have become essential to generating the jobs that we will need in order to sustain our standard of living over the coming decades. And as the process of innovation itself evolves and demands new skills, our colleges and universities must rise to the task of fostering creativity among students, faculty, and the broader community.

Innovation is at the heart of any growing economy, especially in those where standard practices and existing business models have become obsolete. Redundancy in business practices can lead to financial stagnancy. Entrepreneurship is key to innovating at the individual business level as well as inspiring overall business-sector growth. Successful entrepreneurship requires a focus on creativity, integrating innovation and strategic business practices.

Societies that enjoy economic affluence aren't truly prosperous if that affluence benefits only a privileged few, rather than being spread throughout society. That's because social and economic prosperity are intricately linked and highly dependent on each other. Social prosperity requires conditions like good health, well-being, access to lifelong learning, social inclusion, safety, security, and citizenship. Economic prosperity requires conditions like workforce development, job creation, fiscal responsibility, a green economy, infrastructure development, and energy access. Effective coordination and collaboration between the two will result in a lasting social fabric that supports sustainable prosperity and self-reliance.

Entrepreneurship education for entrepreneurial effectiveness

Enterprise and entrepreneurship are transdisciplinary, with a strong connection to issues of employability, innovation, knowledge transfer, commercialisation, and intellectual property. (QAA 2012, UK). The ability to create and build something practically from nothing and strong willingness to take calculated risks and then do everything possible is inevitable for entrepreneurial success.

Entrepreneurship education has been defined as a collection of formalised teachings that informs, trains, and educates anyone interested in participating in socioeconomic development through a project to promote entrepreneurship awareness, business creation, or small business development. Enterprise education (also called entrepreneurial education on the other hand, is usually conceived more broadly, seeking to foster self-esteem and confidence by drawing on the individual's talents and creativity, while building the relevant skills and values that will assist students in expanding their perspectives on schooling and opportunities beyond. Methodologies are based on the use of personal, behavioural, motivational, attitudinal and career planning activities. (UNESCO/ILO 2006)

From GACEINN's founder's perspective, enterprise education is defined as the process of equipping students (or graduates) with an enhanced capacity to generate ideas and the skills to make them happen. Entrepreneurship education equips students with the additional knowledge, attributes and capabilities required to apply these abilities in the context of setting up a new venture or business.

All of this is a prerequisite for entrepreneurial effectiveness which GACEINN seeks, that is, the ability to function effectively as an entrepreneur or in an entrepreneurial capacity, for example within small businesses or as part of 'portfolio careers, where multiple job opportunities, part time work and personal ventures combine'.

GACEINN is about people.

With an excellent membership-base of researchers and teachers worldwide, we are a community of junior and senior scholars that aims to include all voices to be responsive to the demands in our societies. GACEINN allows for a passionate and lively discourse which you are kindly invited to be part of. This way you can broaden your networks and constantly find peers to share and discuss your ideas and work with.

High quality, relevance and impact

GACEINN aims at offering benefits to its members that are characterised by high quality, relevance and impact. It invites disciplinary as well as interdisciplinary work while being distinctive in its focus at the same time.

Our Academic Conference on Entrepreneurship and Small Business (ACESB)

ACESB is the flagship offer to our community to meet up yearly to present and discuss your cutting edge research. This three-day event has the privilege to travel around the world with excellent venues in a different country/city every year. The Conference is rounded off by a versatile pre-conference day with a Doctoral Consortium, a Post Doc Writing Workshop as well as a Policy Forum and a set of Professional Developing Workshops.

It provides a platform for the intellectuals from various fields and disciplines in Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and MSMEs to debate and discuss the current issues worldwide as well as finding solutions to the problems, exchange and share their knowledge with others.

Our Academic Conference on Entrepreneurship (ACCENT)

Since 2019, the Academic Conference on Entrepreneurship has become our second signature event, dedicated to research on entrepreneurship education. Spread over the year, we host smaller events worldwide that allow for different local communities to attend as well. We supplement our offers by providing our early and mid-career scholars with a career mentoring programme.

This academic conference on entrepreneurship aims at providing an exclusive and engaging platform for educators, researchers, entrepreneurs and policy makers to deliberate and exchange their experiences of the major advances and challenges in entrepreneurship education with particular reference to academic entrepreneurship. The conferences will provide ample opportunity for participants to network and share valuable insights on topical and emerging issues on entrepreneurship, entrepreneurship education and academic entrepreneurship.

Our Academic Conference on Entrepreneurship, Management and Sustainable Development (ACEMASD)

This conference aims to bring together leading academics, researchers and professionals to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Entrepreneurship, Management and Sustainable Development. It also provides a veritable interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations,

trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of Entrepreneurship, Management and Sustainable Development.

Our Academic Conference on Biotechnology Entrepreneurship (ACCBENT)

The conference is mainly focused and disseminates information on Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Biotechnology. It permits leading educational scientists, researchers and industrialists from Africa to exchange and share their experiences, recent innovations, sensible challenges, advanced instrumentation and analysis results. Biotechnology has a broader set of speakers, and a broader array of programs geared toward each scientists and industrialists. This meeting offers a powerful likelihood to speak regarding the recent advancements and latest developments in Biotechnology.

Our Academic Conference on Healthcare Entrepreneurship (ACHENT)

The conference is mainly focused and disseminates information on Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Healthcare delivery. It permits leading healthcare professionals, educational scientists, researchers and industrialists from Africa to exchange and share their experiences, recent innovations, sensible challenges, advanced instrumentation and analysis results. Healthcare delivery has a broader set of speakers, and a broader array of programmes geared toward healthcare professionals, scientists and industrialists. This meeting offers a powerful likelihood to speak regarding the recent advancements and latest developments in healthcare delivery.

Our Annual Global Entrepreneurship Education Summit (AGLEEDS)

The Annual Global Entrepreneurship Education Summit is designed to support:

- Tertiary institutions' leaders developing a more entrepreneurial institutions and making improvements to their institutions' performance and impact;
- Individuals committed to overcoming challenges in entrepreneurship;
- Academics, managers and other stakeholder seeking a global network that can uplift knowledge and entrepreneurial practice.

It is an interactive summit on new methods, concepts, workshop-tools, and best-practices for the learning and facilitation of entrepreneurship and innovation.

GACEINN as a voluntary organisation

The GACEINN as a voluntary organisation is continuously developed further by its Management Board that serves as the long-range planning and policy-making authority, by its Country Vice-Presidents who actively initiate national/local initiatives, and by its Fellows, recognised for their outstanding service to the field of entrepreneurship research and their work for GACEINN. Moreover and in particular, GACEINN is driven by the initiative and engagement of you, the members of the GACEINN. Your ideas are very welcome, e.g. by suggesting proposals that would improve the operations of GACEINN or by getting actively involved and organising an event, which has GACEINN co-branding. Please feel free to contact me directly if you believe that I or GACEINN can assist you in any such initiatives.

Create a better world with GACEINN

The world is currently facing major political turbulences and economic cut downs in many countries. Further, nowadays, global markets change rapidly due to disruptive technologies entering the markets, characterised by buzz words, such as Digitization, Internet of Things, Virtual Reality, or Advanced Robotics. Rapid changes can also happen due to drastic political changes which are difficult to predict. Research-informed knowledge and expertise are needed to guide entrepreneurs and MSME's through these times of changes on the global markets. Let the GACEINN community together — as researchers, educators, innovators and entrepreneurs — make significant impact on creating an exciting and better world for tomorrow.

Building more inclusive, sustainable and prosperous societies worldwide

The challenges of moving towards sustainable production and consumption patterns while still enjoying the benefits of economic growth and without exacerbating social tensions are relevant throughout the regions of the world. Against this backdrop, three messages emerge from the report:

- Social inclusion and the reduction of inequality is an essential part of any future framework.
- Sustainable development must be central to future development efforts: this is true for countries of all income brackets.
- Finding solutions to today's challenges requires entrepreneurship and innovation from all partners and engagement from all stakeholders.

Yours sincerely,

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Global President and Chairman of Council