



**Copenhagen
Business School**
HANDELSHØJSKOLEN

Center for Business History

Porcelænshaven 18 A
DK - 2000 Frederiksberg

www.cbs.dk/EHBA2006

ebha2006@cbs.dk

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Ref: Kirsten Suhr Jacobsen

Call for Paper

**EBHA Conference Copenhagen 2006
17 – 19 August 2006**

“The Dynamics of Capitalism and Business enterprise – 200 years of Success, Failure and Scandal”

Nintey four years have passed since Joseph Schumpeter published his “Theorie der wirtschaftlichen Entwicklung”, but its focus on innovation and entrepreneurship as well as on creative destruction and crises makes it as topical as ever. With the era of globalization, the dynamics of capitalism have never been more intense and more all-encompassing, and this gives rise to a series of important questions that Business History may be particularly suited to answer.

By inviting papers, as well as entire sessions that explore historical parallels and analyse the path that business corporations and societies have taken towards the present state of a global economy, we hope to achieve a better and historically founded understanding of the challenges that capitalist societies and business enterprises face in the 21st century.

We invite papers that deal with the corporate level, the national level, the international level, or the three combined. At the same time, we want to recognize the need for Business History to open up to new theoretical approaches in other disciplines like economics, sociology, anthropology, the humanities, and business studies in order to constitute a truly cross-disciplinary science.

The conference therefore has three themes:

Corporate Governance and Business Performance - Historical Explanations

Recent spectacular business failures, such as Enron, World-Com, Arthur Andersen and Parmalat have given rise to a focus on corporate scandals and greed. Accordingly Joseph Schumpeter's influential concept of creative destruction may have more explanatory power now than ever before.

Global Markets and Global Regulation – Institutional Frameworks in History

Throughout its history, the great challenge of capitalism has been to design institutional framework that facilitate the dynamics of capitalism while at the same time providing some stability in economics as well as social terms. In today's era of globalisation, this challenge is as important as ever.

Theoretical Challenges and New Perspectives in Business History

Economics, sociology and anthropology have all provided new theoretical approaches, emphasising cultural and social processes in and around companies are only beginning to influence our discipline. These different approaches and disciplines provide new theoretical and methodological insights that may change old conceptions about business enterprises and consumers' roles in society.

EBHA Conference Copenhagen 2006

Although priority will be given to papers embracing these themes and closely related topics, it is normal practice for EBHA conferences to include some papers outside the theme of the conference.

Submission of Abstracts

Those interested in presenting a paper should prepare a one-page abstract. Proposals for panels should contain the abstracts of the individual papers as well as a short summary explaining the rationale of putting these together in one panel. Suggestions for chairs and discussants of the panel will also be welcomed. Please e-mail your abstracts or panel proposals by January 15, 2006 at the latest ebha2006@cbs.dk. All proposals will be evaluated by an academic committee. Decisions will be announced by e-mail before February 28th 2006.

Ph.D. Competition:

At the conference, there will be a competition for the best dissertation in Business History. The best dissertation will be awarded a prize of € 500. The dissertation can be written in any language, and must be completed no later than 2005. The competition will be coordinated by Per Boje, Jørgen Fink and Per Hansen. A summary should be e-mailed to ebha2006@cbs.dk before 1st of March 2006.

EBHA2006 is organised by the three Danish Centres for Business History in Copenhagen, Aarhus, and Odense.

You can read more about the three themes and the EBHA2006 Conference in Copenhagen at www.cbs.dk/ebha2006

Best regards

Kurt Jacobsen
Chairman of the Organising Committee