cityUDBA
Doctor of Business Administration

CityU College of Business
香港城市大學
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Congratulations to
2023 Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) Graduates

"As one of the most prestigious and recognised Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) programmes in the world, the DBA programme offered by the College of Business at the City University of Hong Kong (CityU) is designed for senior executives who are eager to engage in rigorous business research with practical and societal impacts. We focus on the quality of both research output as well as the research process with a one-on-one personal attention.

We are proud to recognise the following graduates of our programme for generating high quality research with contributions to the society and knowledge. Congratulations!

Professor Muammer Ozer
Director of Doctor of Business Administration programme (DBA)
College of Business (CB),
City University of Hong Kong

DBA Programme, College of Business, City University of Hong Kong

Dr BIEK Linda Basham
Director, International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA)

Thesis title

A Study of Auditors' Professional Skepticism: Evidence from Examining Different Mindsets on Auditors' Assessment of Complex Accounting Estimates

Abstract

The research investigates the effect of different mindsets on an auditor's assessment of complex accounting estimates. Research and regulatory findings highlight audit quality issues in area of fair value measurements and point to auditors' lack of professional skepticism as a contributing factor. Data collection began with an experiment that randomly prompted three different mindsets and then exposed participants to an online experiment in which they read a case about goodwill impairment and responded to questions pertaining to their assessment of fair value. Quantitative analysis of the data revealed statistically significant findings that mindset effects auditors' assessment of complex accounting estimates.

Dr CHIRAVONGVIT Vachiraporn
Lecturer, Sripatum University

Thesis title

Factors Affecting the Success of Small Thai Entrepreneurs

Abstract

The study integrates both qualitative and quantitative methodologies to Thai SMEs, micro-entrepreneurs, and other self-owned businesses. The discussion will try to deliver a complete picture of the current state of entrepreneurship at 50 companies in Thailand. In this sense, the study will be unique and significant to practicing managers with the Probability Sample size with Thai SMEs in central regions around with 117 samples. The results showed that the success of Thai SMEs was influenced by competitive, technology, and customer strategies of Thai SMEs. Empirical findings represent the basis of systematic and practical development of knowledge acquisition.

Dr CHOW Bok Hin Felix
Co-Founder and Executive Chairman, Niche-Tech Semiconductor Materials Limited

Thesis title

An Empirical Study on Green Restaurant Practices: Concept, Causes and Effects

Abstract

This research aimed to fill the knowledge gap in green restaurant practices by identifying the components and their effects on competitiveness and customer satisfaction. A survey was conducted with restaurant managers and owners in Hong Kong, with 169 valid responses received. The study confirmed three factors of Green Restaurant Practices (GRPs): Green Food, Green Equipment, and Green Management. It also found that Green Attitude, Green Capability, and Social Influence significantly predicted GRPs, leading to increased competitiveness and customer satisfaction. The study provides a foundation for future research and offers practical insights for restaurateurs to implement green strategies.

Dr HU Paul
Partner, XNode Innovation Consulting

Thesis title

Personality Traits and Corporate Coworking Model Adoption by End Users: An Empirical Test of the Diffusion of Innovation Theory

Abstract

Most of the established studies on the sharing economy have focused on the platforms themselves, not from an end-user adoption perspective driven by demand-side approaches that are essential for business model innovation and value creation. Our research explored the corporate coworking model (CCM), an internal firm practice for providing open and flexible workspaces for employees. We quantitatively investigated whether the diffusion of innovation theory constructs have a statistically significant effect on CCM adoption intention from end users. We then added the Big Five personality traits as moderators. Finally, we investigated whether these personality traits had a direct impact on CCM adoption intentions.

Dr LEUNG Kin Man Michael
Chief Executive Officer, BOA International Financial Group

Thesis title

An Innovative Machine Learning Approach to Know-Your-Customer Risk Assessment in Digital and Virtual Banks

Abstract

Know-Your-Customer (KYC) is used by banks and financial institutions to assess the risk and value of their customers. The advent of digital and virtual banks has called for new ways to conduct KYC and decide in real-time whether to accept the account opening application or not, without having to meet the customer face-to-face. This research demonstrated that, given adequate training, certain Machine Learning algorithms can achieve a well over 90% accuracy in performing KYC risk assessment compared with human specialists, while at the same time a desirable degree of Explainability can be attained by means of the Dual-Model Balance Score Card approach.

Dr TAM Raymond
Director – Finance, Hutchison Property Group Limited

Thesis title

Feng Shui and Business Performance

Abstract

Scientific rationality for Feng Shui seems neither sufficient nor exclusive as ideology for business and the application of Feng Shui in business appears to be odd from Western practitioners of business. Feng Shui, as a variable in working environment, is not readily found as a key factor leading to better business performance. This study will bridge the gap in literatures on Feng Shui, working environment, decision making and business performance. A behavioral science research paradigm is adopted using non experimental quantitative methodology. The findings can give a better understanding of Feng Shui's application in business and to uncover its potential effect on corporate management's decision making process leading to better business performance.

Dr VIGUERIE Christophe
Founder, Tech & Co

Thesis title

Enterprise Blockchain: It's not about Trust!

Abstract

The objective of this research is to illustrate how organisations engaged in an Enterprise Blockchain network establish social consensus and governance. Through an analysis of multiple case studies, I provide insights into how these organisations reach consensus within an Enterprise Blockchain environment. This analysis reveals that Enterprise Blockchain networks prioritise shared governance rooted in business relationships and common objectives, reinforced by legal agreements and governance structures. Participants engage not solely based on trust but rather to secure their corporate interests, even resorting to legal actions if necessary. This thesis provides generalisable conclusions for organisations that consider adopting blockchain systems and outcomes that contribute to the ongoing and still nascent academic research on Blockchain governance.

Dr WONG Nga Hung Tiffany
General Counsel, EcoCeres, Inc.

Thesis title

Hong Kong Statutory Inside Information Disclosure Regime – An Empirical Study of the Impact of Main Board Listed Firms' Ownership Structure and Board Composition on the Extent of Inside Information Disclosure

Abstract

This thesis studies the inside information disclosure practices of Hong Kong Main Board listed firms before and after the 2013 disclosure legislation to test how certain corporate governance control mechanisms in terms of ownership structure and board composition affect the firms' extent in disclosing inside information to the market. By analyzing a total of 1,575 eligible sample announcements for the Pre-2013 period and Post-2013 period, the empirical results suggest that although the quantity of disclosures remarkably increased, the overall disclosure quality of sample listed firms declined, indicating that statutory backing is not an effective catalyst in enhancing market transparency in the context of inside information disclosure.

Dr XU Runhong Shirley
President, Baxter (China) Holding Ltd., Baxter Healthcare

Thesis title

The Effect of Digital Health Management Tools in Combination with Self-management Activities on Quality of Life in a Chronic Kidney Disease Population: A Cross-Sectional Survey in China

Abstract

Digital adoption is surging in healthcare, particularly in chronic disease management. This study delves into the impact of combining digital health management tools with self-management activities on chronic kidney disease (CKD) patients' quality of life (QoL) in China. We conducted a cross-sectional study with in-depth interviews. Among 1193 patients from 19 hospitals, 56.2% use digital health tools. Age, gender, working status, and blood creatinine are related to CKD QoL. Smart Wearable Devices were found to benefit CKD QoL, but six combinations showed mixed results. Professional guidance, clinical validity, training, and sample profile may contribute to these results. This study reminds the need for continued efforts to enhance CKD QoL.

Dr YANG Xilin Celine
Managing Director, Tapdata Hong Kong Limited

Thesis title

Investigating Permissioned Blockchain Use: An Interorganizational Coordination Perspective

Abstract

Many firms have invested much in building permissioned blockchains, but abandoned them after pilots. Most existing studies overgeneralize this inter-organizational system as general IS, deviating from industrial practice and weakening their relevance. To fill these gaps, we investigate what drives firms' continued use of permissioned blockchains from an inter-organizational coordination perspective. We draw on resource dependence theory to explain how permissioned blockchains can satisfy firms' coordination needs and thus increase firms' continued use intent. The pilot study shows that our model can well explain firms' continued use of permissioned blockchains. This study contributes to a better understanding of firms' use of permissioned blockchains and has practical implications for firms facing difficulty in using permissioned blockchains.

Accrediation:

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