

2026 Management in Emerging Markets Conference (MEM)
Olin School of Business, Washington University in St. Louis
Organizers:
F. Christopher Eaglin, Duke University
Tarek Ghani, Washington University in St. Louis

Friday – May 8, 2026

7:00–8:30 am Breakfast (Knight Center Executive Dining Room - 3rd Floor)

8:30 - 8:40 am - Conference Welcome (Classroom 220)

8:40 am - 9:40 am - Taking Stock: Reflections on the Field
Rodrigo Canales, Caroline Fry, Shon Hiatt, Jiao Luo
Moderated by Tarek Ghani

9:40 am - 10:25 am - PhD Student Rapid Presentations
Kate Nissen, Shubham Singh, Ruby Mittal, Rowan Clarke
Moderated by Stefan Dimitriadis
Format: 4 presenters, 7 mins presentations + 10 mins Q&A

10:25 - 10:40 am - Coffee Break

10:40 am - 12 pm - Paper Session 1 (Gender)
Format: 3 presenters, 20 mins presentation + 5 min Q&A per paper

12 pm to 1 pm - Lunch (Knight Center Executive Dining Room)

1 pm to 2:15 pm - Paper Session 2 (Entrepreneurship)
Format: 3 presenters, 20 mins presentation + 5 min Q&A per paper

2:15 pm to 2:30 pm - Coffee Break

2:30 pm to 3:45 pm - Paper Session 3 (Governance)
Format: 3 presenters, 20 mins presentation + 5 min Q&A per paper

3:50 pm to 4:35 pm - PhD Student Rapid Presentations
Leke Jegede, HK Park, Amrita Saha, Yuqing Tang
Moderated by Thomaz Teodorovicz
Format: 4 presenters, 7 mins presentations + 10 mins Q&A

4:40 pm to 5:30 pm - Looking Forward: Future Directions for Scholarship
Daniella Laureiro Martinez, Aruna Ranganathan, Markus Taussig, Minyuan Zhao
Moderated by Natalie Carlson

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6:00 pm - 8 pm Drinks & Dinner (O'Donnell Lounge, Knight Center)

Saturday – May 9, 2026

7:00–8:30 am Breakfast (Knight Center Executive Dining Room - 3rd Floor)

8:30 am to 9:45 am - Paper Session 4 (Innovation)

Format: 3 presenters, 20 mins presentation + 5 min Q&A per paper

9:45 am to 10:00 am - Coffee Break

10:00 am to 10:50 am - Paper Session 5 (Informal Institutions)

Format: 2 presenters, 20 mins presentation + 5 min Q&A per paper

10:50 am - 11:00 am - MEM 2027 in South Africa

11:00 am to 12:00 pm - Editor Panel: Publishing Research on Emerging Markets

Heather Berry, Seth Carnahan, Lamar Pierce

Moderated by Christopher Eaglin

12:00 pm to 1:00 pm - Lunch (Knight Center Executive Dining Room - 3rd Floor)

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Paper Panel 1: Gender and Small Firm Performance

Amisha Miller (New York University, Stern) - Identifying The Sources of Disparity in Investment Decisions: Experimenting with Avatars

Solene Delecourt (UC Berkeley, Haas) - Too close to home: Women's business location and the gender profit gap

Geoffrey Borchhardt (University of Oregon, Ludquist) - Women's Work: Identifying Drivers of the Gender Earnings Gap in Global Microenterprise

Paper Panel 2: Entrepreneurial Growth

Pete Younkin (University of Oregon, Ludquist) - Accelerators or brakes? A field experiment on encouraging entrepreneurship in Morocco

Audra Wormald (University of North Carolina, Kenan-Flager) - From Monoliths to Mosaics: Pathways to Growth for Microenterprise Entrepreneurs

Liz Lyons (UC San Diego, GPS) - Data-Driven Learning and Firm Performance: Experimental Evidence from SMEs in Kenya

Paper Panel 3: Organizational Governance and Strategies

Thomaz Teodorovicz (Copenhagen Business School) - Strategies at Entry of For-Profit and Non-Profit Firms in Public Services: Insights From Brazilian Higher Education

Wesley Koo (Johns Hopkins University, Carey) - Community-Based Versus Platform-wide Motivation: A Field Experiment on Recycling Deposits and Entrepreneurship in Lagos, Nigeria

Diana Jue-Rajasingh (Rice University, Jones) - When CSR Spending Doesn't Deliver: Political Alignment and Implementation Distortion in India

Paper Panel 4: Tech, Innovation, and Knowledge Diffusion

Aparajita Agarwal (INSEAD) - Relational Constraints and Agent Trade-Offs at the Last Mile: Evidence From a Digital Platform in India

Natalie Carlson (University of Pennsylvania, Wharton) - AI and Entrepreneurial Search: A Field Experiment in Zimbabwe

Britta Glennon (University of Pennsylvania, Wharton) - Production and diffusion of scientific knowledge: evidence from the Turkish failed coup

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Paper Panel 5: Informal Institutions and Entrepreneurship

Chris Eaglin (Duke University, Fuqua) - Informal Governance and Resilience in the South African Taxi Industry

Stefan Dimitriadis (University of Toronto, Rotman) - Bridging Ethnic Divides: How Ethnically Diverse Interactions Improve Entrepreneurial Performance