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EDUCATION

University of Pittsburgh, Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business
Major: Strategic Planning
Minor: Organizational Behavior/Human Resources
PhD expected April 2010
Dissertation overview completed, December 2008
Dissertation proposal completed, July 2008
Comprehensive exams completed with distinction, September 2007

Harvard University, College of Arts and Sciences
BA 1997, *cum laude*
Major: Philosophy
Thesis: *Kant and Nietzsche on virtue and the passions: Thoughts on their conceptions of freedom*

RESEARCH

Interests

My research concentrates on mergers and acquisitions (M&A), with a general emphasis on strategic management and its application to international business. With this phenomenon-driven focus, I utilize various organization and strategy theories and rely on quantitative as well as case-based methods to empirically test my model's fit to the data patterns. My first dissertation essay supports a complex adaptive systems (CAS) model for U.S. M&A waves from 1895 through 2008 by observing a power law distribution for waves. The CAS model integrates prior economic, behavioral and sociological M&A wave theories through analogies and metaphors to other complex systems, such as earthquakes and avalanches. The second essay utilizes a qualitative methodology called process tracing to identify the elements of a multi-level process explanation of M&A waves to better understand their drivers. Using negative binomial regression in conjunction with the quadratic assignment procedure (QAP) for dyadic data in matrix format, one paper uses information processing, resource dependence and transaction cost arguments to identify a new inter-industry-dyad environmental predictor of diversification M&A, which has implications for antitrust policymakers and competitive intelligence analysts. Using the same QAP methodology with logistic regression, another paper identifies resource dependence predictors of cross-border M&A to aid managers' consideration of factors influencing cross-border M&A decisions. These projects, and others spinning off from it, should occupy the next several years of my research career.

Dissertation

Title: Riding the Wave: An Integrated Model of Merger and Acquisition Patterns

Committee: Dr. Ravi Madhavan (Chair), Associate Professor of Business Administration, University of Pittsburgh

Dr. Benoit Morel, Associate Teaching Professor, Department of Engineering and Public Policy and Department of Physics, Carnegie-Mellon University
Dr. John Prescott, Thomas O'Brien Chair of Strategy, University of Pittsburgh
Dr. Frederic Schlingemann, Associate Professor of Finance, University of Pittsburgh
Dr. Sue Cohen, Associate Professor of Business Administration, University of Pittsburgh
Dr. Kevin Kim, Assistant Professor of Psychology in Education, University of Pittsburgh

Abstract: Although Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) are potential value-creation opportunities, why they tend to occur in waves is a mystery to scholars and managers alike. Most extant models of M&A waves are unilevel, reductionist, and Gaussian, whereas wave patterns are arguably multi-level, emergent, and non-normally distributed. Using complexity theory, I describe M&A waves as *emergent* expressions of a *self-organized critical* ecology of firms conceptualized as a *complex adaptive system*. My observation that U.S. M&A waves from 1895 to 2008 are power-law-distributed lends support. The view that M&A waves are self-organized critical phenomena, similar to earthquakes and avalanches, facilitates integration of prior theories of M&A waves. I then analyze the first great U.S. M&A wave with a qualitative "process tracing" methodology to identify elements of a multi-level process explanation to better understand the drivers of these phenomena.

Papers under Submission or Preparation

Park, JW, Morel, B & Madhavan, R. 2009. Riding the wave: Self-organized criticality in merger and acquisition waves. First dissertation essay. Under review at Organization Science.

Park, JW & Madhavan, R. 2009. The uncertainty spread as a predictor of diversification mergers and acquisitions. Finalist for the 2009 Strategic Management Society Conference Best PhD Paper Prize competition. Under review at Organization Science.

Park, JW, Kim, K & Shi, W. 2009. Mergers and acquisition patterns and strategic business cycle management.

Iriyama, A, Park, JW & Madhavan, R. 2009. Resource dependence theory and cross-border corporate acquisitions.

Park, JW & Madhavan, R. 2009. If opposites attract, do they engage or marry? Patterns of inter-industry collaboration for strategic alliances and mergers and acquisitions.

Shi, W. & Park, JW. 2009. Social capital of middle managers: How, why and when does it change?

Conference Presentations

Park, JW, Morel, B & Madhavan, R. 2009. Self-organized criticality in Gibrat's Law: Evidence from merger waves. Strategic Management Society conference, Washington, D.C.

Park, JW & Madhavan, R. 2009. Do opposites attract? An industry-dyad perspective of the effect of environmental uncertainty on diversification. Strategic Management Society conference, Washington, D.C.

Park, JW & Kim, K. 2009. Mergers and acquisitions and strategic business cycle management. Academy of Management annual meeting, Chicago, IL

Caner, T & Park, JW. 2008. Putting different eggs in one basket: Antecedents and consequents of alliance portfolio diversity. Strategic Management Society conference, Cologne, Germany

Iriyama, A, Park, JW & Madhavan, R. 2008. The influence of resource dependence structures on M&As in an international context. Academy of Management annual meeting, Anaheim, CA.

Iriyama, A, Park, JW & Madhavan, R. 2007. Cross-border mergers and acquisitions and domestic/international resource dependence structures. Strategic Management Society conference, San Diego, CA.

Park, JW & Madhavan, R. 2007. If opposites attract, do they engage or marry? Patterns of inter-industry collaboration for strategic alliances and mergers/acquisitions. Academy of Management meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

Finalist, 2009 Strategic Management Society Conference Best PhD Paper Prize competition, Washington, DC. October 2009

Participant, Business Policy and Strategy (BPS) Dissertation Consortium at the Academy of Management meeting, Anaheim, CA. August 2008

Student Honoree, 32nd Annual Honors Convocation, University of Pittsburgh, as an Outstanding Student distinguished in academics, service to others, and leadership. February 2008

2007-08 Recipient, Sunoco Chemical Fellowship, Sunoco Chemicals. December 2007

University of Pittsburgh's David Berg Center for Ethics and Leadership research grant (\$1,000) to propose a theoretical model of the antecedents of price-fixing conspiracies. November 2007

Katz Graduate School of Business Dean's Office Small Grant (\$2,500) to test resource dependence theory in an international context. November 2006

TEACHING

Interests

My teaching interests lie primarily in strategic management, with further application to the international context.

Experience

University of Pittsburgh
College of Business Administration

BUSSPP 1080: Strategic Management. 1 section, 45 students. Fall 2009
BUSSPP 1080: Strategic Management. 1 section, 16 students. Summer 2009
BUSSPP 1080: Strategic Management. 1 section, 31 students. Summer 2008
BUSSPP 1080: Strategic Management. 1 section, 31 students. Fall 2007

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Association Membership

Academy of Management, 2006-10
Strategic Management Society 2005-10
Academy of International Business 2007-10

Other Service

2007-10 Organizations and Entrepreneurship Department's Seminar Series Coordinator. Acting liaison for faculty and PhD students of the Organizations and Entrepreneurship department. Coordinator of presentations of resident faculty, PhD students and visiting scholars on current research, recently published articles, or works-in-progress. Visiting scholars include Drs. Gerry McNamara (Michigan State University), Alfie Marcus (University of Minnesota), Xavier Martin (Tilburg University), Mohan Subramaniam (Boston College), Pat Gibbons (University College, Dublin) and Raja Roy (Tulane University), Amy Edmondson (Harvard University), Shyam Kumar (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute), Joseph Mahoney (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Sandra Robinson (University of British Columbia) and Michael Pratt (Boston College).

2006-07 Colloquium Coordinator of the Katz Doctoral Student Organization (DSO). Service role as liaison for faculty and doctoral students and organizer of doctoral student social events.

WORK EXPERIENCE

September 2004–present. Graduate Student Assistant (GSA) at Katz performing 20 hours/week of research duties for Strategy faculty: Drs. Bradley Agle, John Camillus, Barry Mitnick, Ravi Madhavan and John Prescott. Engaged in large-scale data collection, literature reviews, handling of electronic databases and empirical analyses of large datasets. Output includes working papers and Academy of Management (AOM) 2007, 2008 and 2009 conference presentations co-authored with Dr. Ravi Madhavan and data collection for: Camillus, J.C. 2008. "Strategy as a wicked problem." Harvard Business Review 86(5): 98-106

July 1997–July 2004. Combined 7 years of industry experience in legal services, retail sales, advertising/marketing, environmental non-profit and business consulting

REFERENCES

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