

SOBEY RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

We are pleased to initiate the Soby Research Newsletter series. While the contents, layout, and design of the newsletter may evolve over time due to faculty engagement and feedback, it is the urgency among faculty members that motivated the Research Advancement Committee (RAC) to initiate the newsletter at this time. In the changing landscape of the higher education and may challenges facing the sector and our own institution, Sobey faculty members continue with their research work without any dent. The newsletter gives us an opportunity to learn about the success of our colleagues, their expertise, and most importantly celebrate our shared success.

The current issue presents successes of our faculty members in their research activities in the past several months. Please help us in improving the newsletter by sharing your success stories and thoughts on the newsletter.

Sincerely,

Research Advancement Committee



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Peer Reviewed Journal Publications

- Edeh, J., Nuhu, N., Tajeddin, M., & Simba, A. (2024). Dealing with adversity: innovation among small and medium-sized enterprises in developing economies. *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior & Research*. 30(10), 2578-2600. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJEBr-02-2023-0183>
- Jenkin, T., Kelley, S., Ovchinnikov, A., & Ying, C. (2024). Explanation seeking and anomalous recommendation adherence in human-to-human versus human-to-artificial intelligence interactions. *Decision Sciences*. 55(6), 653-668. <https://doi.org/10.1111/deci.12658>
- Pahlevani, M., Taghavi, M., Vanberkel, P. (2024). A systematic literature review of patient discharge planning, discharge predictions, and the use of artificial intelligence. *Health Care Management Science*. 27(3). 458-478. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10729-024-09682-7>
- Pourvaziri, H., Taghavi, M., Sarhadi, H., Afshari, H., Azad, N. (2025). Multi-objective planning of electric vehicle charging stations by integrating drivers preferences and fairness considerations: A case study in Halifax, Canada. Forthcoming in *Computers & Industrial Engineering*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cie.2025.110886>
- Khokhar, A.R., Qiu, J., & Rahaman, M. (2024). Are firms as liquid as they report? Window dressing in corporate cash holdings. *Contemporary Accounting Research*. 41(2). Qiu, J., & Rahaman, M. (2024). Are firms as liquid as they report? Window dressing in corporate cash holdings. *Contemporary Accounting Research*. 41(2). <https://doi.org/10.1111/1911-3846.12929>.
- Sadeh, F., Eshghi, K., & Eslami, H. (2024). Contract Design and Maintaining Sales Leadership: Evidence from Franchise Systems. *Industrial Marketing Management*. 121, 27-39. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.indmarman.2024.06.009>
- Schiff, D. S., Kelley, S., & Camacho Ibáñez, J. (2024). The emergence of artificial intelligence ethics auditing. *Big Data & Society*. 11(4) <https://doi.org/10.1177/20539517241299732>
- Simba, A., Tajeddin, M, Jones. P., & Rambe, P. (2025). Technostress in entrepreneurship: Focus on entrepreneurs in the developing world, *Information Technology & People*, <https://doi.org/10.1108/itp-01-2024-0073>
- Tajeddin, M. (2025). Strategic Dualities in International Entrepreneurship: Institutional Escape versus Arbitrage and Their Entrepreneurial Outcomes, *Destructive Entrepreneurship in Emerging Markets: Causes and Consequences*, Springer Nature. (forthcoming)
- Tajeddin, M., Liguori, E., Simba, A., Edeh, J., & Nuha, N, (2024), Exploiting A Non–Mainstream Financial Obit to Innovate: SMEs In the Developing World, *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior & Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJEBr-07-2024-0745>
- Voltan, A. & De Fuentes, C. (2025). Perseverance Pays Off: Bricolage and Proactiveness as a Path to Social Impact. *Journal of Social Entrepreneurship*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19420676.2025.2462827>

- Wang, S., Hu, H., & Fan, H. (2025). Does supply chain finance improve firms' ESG performance?. *Economics Letters*, 247, 112098. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.econlet.2024.112098>
- Zhang, X., Razavi-Far, R., Isah, H., David, A., Higgins, G., & Zhang, M. (2025). A survey on deep learning in edge-cloud collaboration: Model partitioning, privacy preservation, and prospects. *Knowledge-Based Systems*, 112965. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.knosys.2025.112965>
- Zhang, X., Razavi-Far, R., Isah, H., David, A., Higgins, G., Lu, R., & Ghorbani, A. A. (2024). Area in circle: A novel evaluation metric for object detection. *Knowledge-Based Systems*, 293, 111684. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.knosys.2024.111684>

Conference Paper Presentations

- Babaghaderi, A., Bhabra, H., & Kolahgar, S. (2024, December 19–21). An empirical analysis of voluntary corporate disclosure around corporate spinoff announcements. India Finance Conference, IIM Raipur, India.
- El Meslmani, N., Ismail, A., & Uddin, M. (2024, November 23). Are insiders' forecasts reliable to outsiders? Evidence from analysts' reaction to merger synergy projections. Southern Finance Association Annual Meeting, Palm Bay, FL.
- Eslami, H., Sadeh, F., & Eshghi, K. (2024, September 14–17). Termination of multi-partner NPD projects: The role of alliance portfolio characteristics. PDMA Inspire Innovation Conference and JPIM Research Forum, St. Louis, MO.
- Kelley, S., & Ovchinnikov, A. (2024, October). The role of explainable artificial intelligence in influencing loan officer behaviour. INFORMS 2024 Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, USA.
- Kelley, S., Jenkin, T., & Ovchinnikov, A. (2024, June). Can AI even give me an explanation? 2024 Canadian Operations Research Society Annual Meeting, London, ON, Canada.
- Kelley, S., Ovchinnikov, A., & Heinrich, A. (2024, April). Using explainable artificial intelligence to improve credit access. 2024 Production and Operations Management Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, USA.
- Konings, Z. and Kochetova, N. (2024). Who wants to be a millionaire? Exploring auditor comfort over qualitative financial statement disclosures. 2024 Accounting Behavior and Organizations Research Conference of the American Accounting Association. Retrieved from <https://aaahq.org/Meetings/2024/ABO-Research-Conference/Program>
- Konings, Z. and Kochetova, N. (2025). Who wants to be a millionaire? Exploring auditor comfort over qualitative financial statement disclosures. 2025 Auditing Section Midyear Meeting of the American Accounting Association. Retrieved from <https://aaahq.org/Meetings/2025/Auditing-Section-Midyear-MeetingProgram>
- Petersen, B. K., & Cooke, G. B. (2024, July). Exploitation or empowerment: Technology and agency in the work of musicians. 40th European Group of Organization Studies (EGOS) Colloquium, Milan, Italy.
- Petersen, B. K., Sweet, P., & Cooke, G. B. (2024, June). Gig employment and technology: Exploitation, emancipation, creativity, and entrepreneurship in the work of musicians. 20th International Labour and Employment Relations Association (ILERA) World Congress, New York City, NY, USA.
- Khokhar, A. R. (2024, December). The role of corporate social responsibility: Evidence from market reaction to data breach announcements. 2nd International Conference on Advancing Sustainable Futures (ICASF 2024), Abu Dhabi, UAE. Best Paper Award. Retrieved from <https://www.adu.ac.ae/conferences-competitions/international-conference-on-advancing-sustainable-futures>)

- Khokhar, A. R. (2024, September). The role of corporate social responsibility: Evidence from market reaction to data breach announcements. Vietnam Symposium in Entrepreneurship, Finance, and Innovation (VSEFI 2024), Ha Noi, Vietnam. Retrieved from Rahaman, M. (2024, September). The role of corporate social responsibility: Evidence from market reaction to data breach announcements. Vietnam Symposium in Entrepreneurship, Finance, and Innovation (VSEFI 2024), Ha Noi, Vietnam. Retrieved from <https://www.is.vnu.edu.vn/en/2024-vietnam-symposium-in-entrepreneurship-finance-and-innovation-vsefi-2024/>
- Rixon, D., Doyle, A., & McClean, S. (2024, October 18). Growing our future childcare co-operative. North America Case Research Association, Orlando, FL, USA.
- Yaghoobi, S., & Eslami, H. (2024, November 14–15). Narration changes in crowdfunding projects and the success rate of campaigns: The role of wordings and product types. 2024 RENT Conference, Nantes, France

Organization of Conferences, Journal Issues, and Events

- Chalwati, A. : Organizing Conference, The global initiative for governance and Sustainability": <https://www.gigs-initiative.org/event/gigs-3rd-annual-conference-2024-5/register> Twelfth International Conference of the Journal of International Accounting Research (JIAR): <https://aaahq.org/Meetings/2025/JIAR>
- Kochetova, N.: Moderated a national live webinar, hosted by Canadian Academic Accounting Association, "Substantiating Sustainability: The Evolution of Assurance Practices for Sustainability Reporting" on January 24, 2025.
- Tajeddin, M.: Running Special Issue • Entrepreneurship in emerging economies, Journal of Risk and Financial Management - https://www.mdpi.com/journal/jrfm/special_issues/1FC34OGLQ8

Research Related Awards, Grants, and Honors

Annika Voltan

Linton Sustainability Trust funding award for developing a sustainability focused teaching case (\$5,000) New Faculty Grant (\$5,000)

Mahdi Tajeddin

Recognized as Top ten 2024-2025-High – Impact Global MSME Researchers by International Council for Small Business (ICSB) -2024 -

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7278132602698362880/>

Mojtaba M. Shourkai

New Faculty Grant (\$5,000), discourse analysis around sustainable food production

Nabil El Meslmani

Awarded “Outstanding Paper in Corporate Finance.” Retrieved from

<https://southernfinance.org/wp-content/uploads/2024-SFA-Program.pdf>

Natalia Kochetova

Appointed Associate Editor of "International Journal of Auditing" (ranked "A" on ABDC list) as at February 17,2025.

Rahman Khokhar

- CPA Ontario Research Grant (C\$ 14,113) - Title: Disclosure Quality and Transparency of the Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act 2023 with Trevor Chamberlain (McMaster University, Canada) and Hesam Shahriari (Prairie View A&M University, United States)
- 100K Strong Grant 2024-25 (US \$ 55,719) from Partners of the Americas and the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs of the U.S. Department of State (WHA/DOS) and Linton Family Gift at Sobey School of Business. - Title: Developing Climate Leaders Through Collaborative Team-Based Learning with Anjali Chaudhry (Dominican University, United States) and Pilar Lemarroy (Universidad Anáhuac, Mexico)
- Best Paper Award for paper titled “The role of corporate social responsibility: Evidence from market reaction to data breach announcements” at (ICASF 2024) – Abu Dhabi, UAE.

Xichen Zhang

NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada) Discovery Grants Program with total budget of \$172,500

Stephanie Kelley

Bankinter Scientific Research Awards in Business Ethics, Corporate Social Responsibility, and Sustainability sponsored by Bankinter Consumer Finance, Spain (Awarded 4th place certificate, out of 64 applications)

Community Engagement

Hadi Eslami

Sudbury.com Staff. (2024, December 2). Buy now pay later may seem tempting, but experts urge caution. Collingwood News. Retrieved from <https://www.collingwoodtoday.ca/local-news/buy-now-pay-later-may-seem-tempting-but-experts-urge-caution-9891832>

MacIvor, A. (2025, January 15). Skyrocketing rental fees 'shock' some Superior Propane customers. CBC News. Retrieved from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/superior-propane-price-increase-consumer-1.7429709>

Book, Book Chapters, Reports, and Case Studies

- Mantzari, E, McCulloch, M, Rixon, D and Mills (2024), Accounting and Reporting of Co-operatives in the UK: Practices, Challenges and Recommendations. University of Birmingham. December 8.
- Rixon, D., Long, B. S., & Duguid, F., (2025). A transformative path for a co-operative industry association. In Sage Business Cases. SAGE Publications, Ltd., <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781071985007>