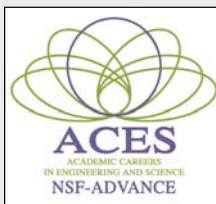


NSF-ADVANCE Distinguished Lecture



Dr. Maria Minniti

**Assoc. Professor
of Economics
with expertise in
Entrepreneurship
and
Economics
Babson College**



*Hosted by the Department of Marketing and Policy Studies
Weatherhead School of Management*

Gender and Entrepreneurial Behavior: A Cross Country Comparison

Wednesday, February 23, 2005 at 3:30 PM

Peter B. Lewis Building, Room 103

Reception will follow at 5:00pm

Please RSVP to Teresa Kabat at tmk4@case.edu

Self-employment is becoming an increasingly important source of employment for women across many countries. The level of female involvement in entrepreneurial activity, however, is significantly lower than that of men. In fact, the likelihood of a woman starting her own business is about half that of a man. Using a large sample of individuals across countries, Dr. Minniti will discuss the variables influencing entrepreneurial behavior and, in particular, those that have a significant correlation with differences across genders. The results of her study show that men and women tend to react to the same drivers of entrepreneurial behavior but that the relevance of the various drivers changes significantly across gender causing a divergence in involvement levels between the sexes. Such differences will be shown to be also insensitive to level of development of the country of origin and to the reasons why women start their own businesses.

Dr. Minniti holds a PhD in Economics from New York University. She has published numerous articles on entrepreneurship, economic growth and complexity theory. Some of her articles have appeared in the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organizations*, *Small Business Economics*, and *Journal of Business Venturing*, among others. Her work has been presented at many national and international conferences such as the American Economic Association Meeting and the Academy of Management Meeting. Since 1999, Dr. Minniti has been a member of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) Consortium. She is the director of the GEM Research Group on Women in Entrepreneurship and the Team Leader for the GEM US Research Group. Dr. Minniti is an advisor for the United Nations Development Program. She is currently working on a book on the cross-country motivations of entrepreneurial behavior.

With generous support from the National Science Foundation ADVANCE award, the Academic Careers in Engineering and Science (ACES) program at Case Western Reserve University seeks to contribute to the development of a national science and engineering workforce that includes the full participation of women at all levels of faculty and academic leadership.

Website: www.cwru.edu/admin/aces/index.html Email: NSF_ACES@case.edu