

## Introducing Berkeley Method of Entrepreneurship - a game-based teaching approach

**Ikhlaq Sidhu\*, Ken Singer\*\*, Mari Suoranta\*\*\*, Charlotta Johnsson\*\*\*\***

*\*,\*\* Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology (CET), University of California Berkeley, CA, USA  
(email: [sidhu@berkeley.edu](mailto:sidhu@berkeley.edu) , email: [ken.singer@berkeley](mailto:ken.singer@berkeley) )*

*\*\*\* University of Jyväskylä, Finland and Visiting scholar at UC Berkeley  
(e-mail: [mari.suoranta@jyu.fi](mailto:mari.suoranta@jyu.fi) , [mari.suoranta@berkeley.edu](mailto:mari.suoranta@berkeley.edu) )*

*\*\*\*\* Lund University, Sweden and Visiting scholar at UC Berkeley  
(e-mail: [edu\\_charlotta.johnsson@control.lth.se](mailto:edu_charlotta.johnsson@control.lth.se) , [charlotta@berkeley.edu](mailto:charlotta@berkeley.edu) )*

---

**Abstract:** Entrepreneurship is often thought of as the act of commercializing on an innovation. In modern open economies, entrepreneurship is one of the key aspects for economic growth. Teaching and learning entrepreneurship is therefore of importance and schools, colleges and universities can play an important role by including entrepreneurship and innovation in their curricula. The Berkeley Method of Entrepreneurship (BMoE) is a holistic teaching and learning approach that enables engineers to be more entrepreneurial. It encompasses three main elements; infrastructure, mindset and tactics. Infrastructure and tactics are covered in most entrepreneurial curricula, whereas only few curricula explicitly include the mindset perspective. The Berkeley Method of Entrepreneurship (BMoE) is based on the hypothesis that the mindset of an entrepreneur can be characterized by a set of behavioral patterns and that an inductive game-based teaching approach is a successful vehicle for introducing and re-enforcing these. The game-based teaching approach lets the students explore his/her current mindset and compare it with that of entrepreneurs. The paper presents the Berkeley Method of Entrepreneurship, the set of behavioral patterns used and the game based teaching approach.

---

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Entrepreneurship matters. In modern open economies it is more important for economic growth than it has ever been. The reason is that globalization and the revolution in information technology imply a need for structural change, requiring a substantial reallocation of resources. This induces an intense demand for entrepreneurship (Thurik and Audretsch, 1998; Casson 1995). In understanding entrepreneurship, schools, colleges and universities play an important role and should therefore implement programs and courses that improve the education and training in the area of technology management and entrepreneurship (Siegel, 2009; Fleming, Yang & Golden, 2010). Governments and universities worldwide are pushing for education programs that produce more “entrepreneurial engineers” who are “bilingual” in the sense that they possess dual managerial and technical competencies (Verzat, Byrne & Fayolle, 2009).

Some of the most crucial elements of entrepreneurship at the level of individuals are; attitudes, skills and actions (Wennekers, Van Wennekers, Thurike & Reynolds, 2009), i.e. elements that are partly not taught in traditional classes at schools, colleges and universities. Creating entrepreneurial mind-sets in students also calls for the use of innovative models and contents in teaching and may involve changing the content of courses as well as the

process of learning itself (Shepherd, 2004). Research investigating suitable pedagogical methods to attain requisite skills among engineering students is lacking. Equally, accounts of the use and potential of games as a pedagogical tool are largely absent from mainstream journals (Verzat et al., 2009).

The Berkeley Method of Entrepreneurship (BMoE) is a holistic teaching and learning approach that enables engineers to be more entrepreneurial. It encompasses three main elements; infrastructure, mindset, and tactics. Infrastructure and tactics are elements found in many entrepreneurial courses and provide the students with knowledge and facts associated to entrepreneurship. Mindset is an element often neglected in traditional courses and concerns the student’s behavior and attitude to entrepreneurship.

The Berkeley Method of Entrepreneurship is based on the hypothesis that the mindset of an entrepreneur can be characterized by a set of behavioral patterns and that an inductive game-based teaching approach is a successful vehicle for introducing and re-enforcing these. The game-based teaching approach let the students explore his/her current mindset and compare it with that of entrepreneurs. The BMoE further stresses the relationship between the student and the subject, i.e. how information, experiences and knowledge provided in the course is perceived by the student. The BMoE is therefore inductive rather than

deductive, and thereby organized around “learning” rather than “teaching”.

This paper starts with a definition and description of entrepreneurship and why it is of importance for society (Section 2). It describes current trends in teaching and learning as well as the special aspects of teaching and learning entrepreneurship (Section 3). The paper further contains a description of the BMoE (Section 4) and the hypotheses on which it is based. The paper presents a set of behavioral patterns that characterize an entrepreneur (Section 5) and it discusses how these can be invoked by introducing games in the teaching and learning setting (Section 6). The paper presents some ideas for further research related to entrepreneurship and management education in general and to the BMoE in particular (Section 7). At last, the conclusions are drawn (Section 8).

## 2. ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Entrepreneur, originally being a French word, is commonly defined as an individual who organizes or operates a business or businesses. The first usage of the word “entrepreneur” dates back to the Irish-French economist Richard Cantillon who, in 1734, defined it as “Entrepreneurs are non-fixed income earners who pay known costs of production but earn uncertain incomes” (Tarascio, 1985). Newer definition comes from Ronald May, who states that “An Entrepreneur is someone who commercializes his or her innovation”, and Howard Stevenson (Gartner & Baker, 2010) who states that “Entrepreneurship is the process by which individuals pursue opportunities without regard to the resources they currently control”. Entrepreneurship is the art of being an entrepreneur.

Entrepreneurship is an essential ingredient for creative destruction, a phenomenon described by the Austrian economist Joseph Schumpeter (Schumpeter, 1934). According to Schumpeter creative destruction is “the essential fact about capitalism” where new combinations of resources (e.g., human talent, physical resources and financial resources) give rise to new industries and wealth (MacCraw, 2009). According to Schumpeter, creative destruction is the primary mechanism for economic development for societies and businesses. In his view, entrepreneurs are the dynamic figures who combine, or recombine, vital resources to serve emerging customer needs, thereby “creatively” destroying the pre-existing economic order (Deligiannidis & Noyes, 2010). Entrepreneurship in a society can exist at three distinct levels; individual, firm and macro level. The three levels operate under different conditions, have its own crucial elements and their respective success has different implications (Wennekers et al., 2009). It is the success of entrepreneurship at the macro level that implies economic growth. However, a success at the macro level cannot be achieved without successful entrepreneurship at the firm level and at the individual level since the macroclimate is grown out of these (van Stel, Carree & Thurik, 2010).

## 3. TEACHING AND LEARNING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

As an answer to the need of increasing entrepreneurship in society, citizens should be trained to start companies. One opportunity to create new companies is in areas of innovation and new inventions. In most countries, universities generate lots of new innovations. Thus, the universities that not only innovate (through research) but also train entrepreneurs will be at the forefront of growing their countries' economies (Bramwell & Wolfe, 2008). Today many universities have extended their traditional goal (education, research and outreach) to also include innovation and entrepreneurship. The newer goal is often expressed as; education, research, and outreach-and-innovations. Entrepreneurship and innovation are being included in curricula at adaptive universities. In addition, discussions about teaching and learning in general, has received increased attention at universities lately.

Generally speaking, teaching is interpreted as the act of helping someone to learn. In recent years, the discussions about teaching has shifted from “how to present and transfer knowledge from a teacher to someone else” to “how information and knowledge provided is perceived by the receiver”, i.e. from a teacher-student-transfer focus in which the subject is only the transported goods, to the student-subject-relation focus in which the teacher is only the medium used. The task for the teachers is to help the students to learn. This shift is illustrated in the didactic triangle in Figure 1 (Johnsson (2014)).

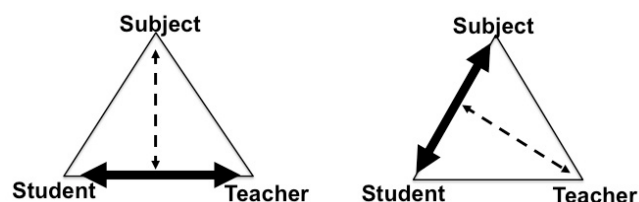


Figure 1: An interpretation of the Didactic Triangle showing a shift from the teacher-student-transfer focus (left) to the student-subject-relation focus (right).

The teacher-student-transfer focus (left in Figure 1) is also referred to as deductive teaching, whereas the student-subject-relation focus (right in Figure 1) is referred to as inductive learning (Prince and Felder (2006)).

- **Deductive:** In a deductive classroom, the teacher conducts lessons by introducing and explaining concepts to students, and then expecting students to complete tasks to practice the concepts. The students should demonstrate that they have understood the concepts by repeating what the teacher just told or did.
- **Inductive:** In an inductive classroom, the teacher presents or exposes the students to examples that shows how the concept is used. The intent is for students to “notice”, by reflecting around the

examples, how the concept works. The students should demonstrate that they have understood by re-inventing the concepts based on their own experience.

Deductive teaching methods are suitable to use in subjects where facts and raw knowledge is of most importance, whereas an inductive teaching approach is suitable to use when skills and attitudes are in focus. When it comes to teaching and learning entrepreneurship there are several aspects, apart from facts and raw knowledge that are of importance. Political economist Robert Reich considers leadership, management ability, and team-building to be essential qualities of an entrepreneur (Muljadi, 2011). Other researchers state that common skills and attitudes of entrepreneurs are; ability to bear risk (Knight, 2002; Drucker, 1999), coping with true uncertainty, and possessing an extrovert behavior, i.e. an outgoing, talkative, energetic behavior (Knight, 2002). Since skills and attitudes of entrepreneurs are equally important as facts and raw knowledge, and since skills and attitudes are “owned” by the students, the relation between the student and the entrepreneurship-subject becomes essential, the school and teachers are only a mean for the student to reflect upon his or her skills and attitudes (compare Figure 1, right side) and an inductive learning approach is therefore most suitable.

An example of an inductive learning approach is game-based learning, something that has received increased attention lately (Verzat et al., 2009). It has been driven by clear successes in military and industrial training as well as by emerging research into the cognitive benefits of game plays. Developers and researchers are working in various areas of game-based learning, including games that are goal-oriented; social game environments; non-digital games that are easy to construct and play; games developed expressly for education; and commercial games that lend themselves to refining team and group skills. More complex approaches like role-playing, collaborative problem solving, and other forms of simulated experiences have broad applicability across a wide range of disciplines, and are beginning to be explored in more classrooms (Games-in-Education, 2013).

#### 4. BERKELEY METHOD OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP (BMoE)

At University of California Berkeley a new method for teaching and learning entrepreneurship is under development (Sidhu, 2013a; GVL Report, 2013). The pedagogy is focused around learning rather than teaching (compare figure 1) and the students are pushed to proactively develop their own understanding rather than waiting for someone to teach them what they need to know. The students are trained to frame problems and find ways to solve them and then reflect on what they've learned from the process. The pedagogy of BMoE is based on the following five (5) assumptions:

- You can learn it only while you are trying to do it.

- Instructors host the environment for students to interact directly with the problem. Students make their own decisions and learn inductively.
- Behavior training – through games and exercises
- De-emphasis of “grades” and refocus on “goals”
- Leverage real-world competition

The method has already been used in practice at different occasions; boot camps and courses for undergraduate and graduate students, Global Venture Lab Conferences for academia and industry, and research activities. The 3-layered model describing the BMoE is depicted in Figure 2.



Figure 2: The three layers in BMoE.

The three layers are defined as:

- Layer 1 Tactics: Teaching effectiveness of strategy, tactics and execution e.g. opportunity recognition, pivots, MVP, raising funds, tools, frameworks, etc.
- Layer 2 Mindset: Exposure to issues related to culture, social psychology, and mindset. The psychology of being an entrepreneur e.g. trusting, risk assessment, communication, overcoming social barriers, rejection therapy, fail training, is covered.
- Layer 3 Infrastructure: Assuring infrastructure and supporting, safe and effective environment e.g. diverse networks, ability to connect, facilities, services, clarity of rules of engagement, and mentors.

Layer 1 and 3 are covered in most traditional courses, entrepreneurship as well as other courses, whereas Layer 2 is often not explicitly included in courses today. In traditional courses the students are given access to good infrastructure and supporting environment (Layer 3). The aim is to facilitate the students to study, search for

information, share documents etc. The infrastructure also contains clarity of rules; the students should know what is expected from them in the learning situation. In traditional courses the students are also taught about the tactics associated to the subject (Layer 1). In entrepreneurship courses, the tactics could be knowledge about e.g. opportunity recognition, how to raise funds or how to use certain tools and frameworks.

However, what is often omitted in traditional courses or entrepreneurship courses as well, is an explicit work with mindset (Level 2). The BMoE aims at training students to become entrepreneurs and therefore exposes the students to the entrepreneurial mindset. This is done by using an inductive game-based teaching approach.

The BMoE is based on a two-folded hypothesis:

1. the mindset of an entrepreneur can be described as a list of behavioral patterns, and
2. an inductive game based teaching approach is a successful vehicle to introduce and re-enforce behavioral patterns to students.

A list of ten (10) behavioral patterns has been formulated, and current research aims at confirming or rejecting each of the behavioral patterns. The inductive game-based teaching approach has started to be used at University of California Berkeley within courses given by the Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology. Current research aims at tuning existing games and/or finding additional games reinforcing the behavioral patterns. Research concerning how to measure the success of using a game-based teaching approach in entrepreneurial curricula is also in its initial stages. The following two chapters describe the ten behavioral patterns characterizing entrepreneurs and the game-based teaching approach.

## 5. TEN BEHAVIORAL PATTERNS CHARACTERIZING ENTREPRENEURS

The mindset of successful entrepreneurs has been studied by various researchers (e.g. (Hwang & Horowitz (2012))) and a proposal describing their most dominant characteristics is given through ten (10) behavioral patterns, which are listed in the Table 1. It is important to note that this is an ongoing research, which implies that the ten (10) behavioral patterns should be interpreted as best current status. It cannot be excluded that more patterns will be added, or current patterns modified/removed.

The ten behavioral patterns describe the typical mindset of successful entrepreneurs. If everyone in a community acts like this, there will be a vibrant entrepreneurial culture, as described by Hwang & Horowitz (Hwang & Horowitz (2012)).

Nb	Behavior
1	Pay It Forward “Agree that you will get help from others, and pay it forward.”
2	Story Telling “Realize a something new by induction, and then learn to communicate the story with a new language.”
3	Friend or Foe “If you can’t tell: Learn to trust others without expecting anything in return.”
4	Seek Fairness “Make deals that seek fairness (in positive sum transactions), not advantage (in zero sum transactions).”
5	Plan to Fail “It is necessary to be Wrong sometimes. Plan to Experiment. Plan to Fail. (Fail Fast) Analyze, Adapt and repeat. The smarter you think you are, the harder this is going to be.”
6	Diversify “Diversify your networks. Connect to people you would not normally, then go and listen. Open Up. And connect them to others.”
7	Role Model “Be a role model for other entrepreneurs and innovators.”
8	Believe “Believe that you can change the world.”
9	Good Enough “Perfection is no good but good enough is perfect.”
10	Collaboration “Individual vs team and competitors vs partners”

Table 1: Ten (10) behavioral patterns characterizing and entrepreneur.

### 5.1 Pay it Forward

*“Agree that you will get help from others, and pay it forward”*

Pay-It-Forward is a term used to describe the concept of “asking the beneficiary of a good deed to repay it to others

instead of the original benefactor” (Pay-It-Forward, 2013). The first known use of the term dates back to 1916 when it was used in the phrase “You don’t pay love back; you pay it forward” (Hammond, 1916).

In areas strong in entrepreneurship, such as Silicon Valley in California, US, a Pay-It-Forward culture has been identified (Blank, 2011). Entrepreneurs in these areas build support networks outside of existing companies. These networks can be around any area of interest. The networks are mutually beneficial, i.e. as a participant you both learn from others and contribute to help others. Over time experienced executives “pay back” the help they got by mentoring others. A Pay-It-Forward culture makes an entrepreneurship ecosystem smarter. (Blank, 2011).

The Pay-It-Forward concept is the motivation behind seasoned managers or entrepreneurs getting involved in coaching and/or mentoring (Allen, Eby, Poteet, Lentz & Lima, 2004). Mentoring has been identified as an exchange relationship whereby both the mentor and the protégé gain several benefits from each other. For example, compared with non-mentored individuals, mentored employees demonstrate higher levels of objective and subjective positive outcomes such as career development, job satisfaction, socialization, organizational commitment, and career advancements (Richard, Ismail, Bhuian & Taylor, 2009).

## 5.2 Story Telling

*“Realize something new by induction, and then learn to communicate the story with a new language”*

This behavioral pattern refers to Christensen’s influential work on the innovator’s dilemma (Christensen, 1997) and Moore’s work on crossing the chasm (Moore, 2006). Especially in high-tech markets, an entrepreneur’s product idea or business model can be radically new, or disruptive, it can be a “new to the world” type of innovation. Often even the terminology used to describe the concept might be missing. Exploring a new, possibly disruptive, market thus requires major changes in patterns of behavior related to how entrepreneurs communicate. The entrepreneurs need to learn how to “cross the communication chasm” so that potential investors, and later on customers, understand the added value in the new offering. The entrepreneurs need to learn to communicate their story with a new language; they need to be storytellers and to do story telling.

To be able to adopt new innovations, consumers need to be aware of an innovation and understand the additional value provided by the innovation (Rogers, 1996). Narrative, or story telling, is central tool in addressing many of today’s key leadership challenges, for example, articulating the risks and opportunities identified by strategic management tools like strategic plans, scenario analysis, and dilemma resolution (Denning, 2006). Story telling can be one way to overcome the communication chasm. It can be used effectively for several purposes of communication; sparking action, transmitting values, explore alternative future scenarios or sharing knowledge.

## 5.3 Friend or Foe

*“If you can’t tell: learn to trust others without expecting anything in return”*

Trust, generalized trust and particularized trust, are important concepts strongly related to a person’s judgment of friend or foe. Trust means to believe in someone’s word, it is often towards a known person. Research has validated the importance of social cohesion based on trust, support, and altruism in driving behavioral outcomes. It has been shown that trust is mainly created through real-life collaborations, working together, and/or sharing information (Bieling, McCabe & Anthony, 2013; Hwang and Horowitz, 2012). In social networks trust can be multiplied.

Generalized trust is trust towards strangers arising when “a community shares a set of moral values in such a way as to create regular expectations of regular and honest behavior” (Fukuyama, 1995). Generalized trust differs fundamentally from particularized trust by being extended to people on whom the trusting part has no direct information (Bjornskov, 2007).

## 5.4 Seek Fairness

*“Make deals that seek fairness (in positive sum transactions), not advantage (in zero sum transactions)”*

Covey (1989) coined the idea of abundance mentality or abundance mindset, a concept in which a person believes there are enough resources and successes to share with others. It can be contrasted with the scarcity mindset (i.e., destructive and unnecessary competition), which is founded on the idea that, if someone else wins or is successful in a situation, that means you lose; not considering the possibility of all parties winning (in some way or another) in a given situation. Individuals with an abundance mentality reject the notion of zero sum transactions and instead believe in positive sum transactions. They are able to celebrate the success of others rather than feel threatened by it. Genuine strive for mutually beneficial solutions or agreements, as supported by a positive sum transactions attitude, is the key in (entrepreneurial) relationships. A “win” for all is ultimately a better long-term solution than if only one person in the situation had got his way.

## 5.5 Plan to Fail

*“It is necessary to be wrong sometimes. Plan to experiment. Plan to fail (and fail fast). Analyze, adapt and repeat. The smarter you think you are, the harder this is going to be.”*

Important concepts related to this rule are effectual logic, failure acceptance and pivoting. Research on successful entrepreneurs revealed that they used non-predictive or effectual logic. This means that you begin with who you are, what you know, whom you know and begin doing the doable with as few resources invested as possible (Sarasvathy, 2001; Read, Sarasvathy, Song & Wiltbank,

2009). Research also concludes that an entrepreneur should “repeat, continue after failure and pivot until the chain of stakeholders and commitments converge to a viable new venture” (Ries, 2011). In particular, begin interacting with a wide variety of potential stakeholders and negotiating actual commitments. Let the actual commitments reshape the specific goals of the venture. An entrepreneur has to accept that the reshaping is an important part, aiming to improve; it is not to be thought of as a defeat.

## 5.6 Diversify

*“Diversify your networks. Connect to people you would not normally, then go and listen. Open Up. And connect them to others.”*

According to Dubini and Aldrich (1991) the diversity of entrepreneurs’ networks is crucial to the scope of opportunities open to them. Information about new business locations, potential markets for goods and services, sources of capital or potential investors, and innovations, is likely to be spread widely among individuals. This implies that, someone with a small set of overlapping relationships is at a disadvantage when competing for information with someone with a large set of divergent ties. However, it is not easy to diversify, there are social barriers to stifle human connections. Although the geographical distances, due to the technology, are shrinking the social distances caused by culture, language and distrust are still there (Hwang & Horowitz, 2012).

## 5.7 Role model

*“Be a role model for other entrepreneurs and innovators.”*

It has been demonstrated that a first step in approaching a new role or a new behavior is to be able to associate oneself with a role model possessing this behavior. Culture can be learned by imitating people similar to us or imitating people that are admired as socially dominant (Hwang & Horowitz, 2012; Freeman, 2009). Role models are therefore powerful tools for learning new behaviors and one of the most powerful ways to change the behavior of someone is to have them spend time and listen to someone else whom they want to emulate (Hwang and Horowitz, 2012).

In a good mentoring relationship, the mentor can be a role model through both words and actions. Assuming the mentor is an entrepreneur with experience and the mentee is a newer entrepreneur. An entrepreneur is constantly breaking rules and making mistakes in an effort to drive its businesses forward. As a new entrepreneur, this is a challenging part, having a mentor in this process can be invaluable. Entrepreneurs are a role model for how other entrepreneurs should see, and deal with, ethics in entrepreneurship.

## 5.8 Believe

*“Believe that you can change the world”*

An important concept related to belief is self-efficacy. The construct of self-efficacy was introduced by Bandura (1977) and represents one core aspect of his social-cognitive theory (Bandura, 2001). Perceived self-efficacy is concerned with people's beliefs in their ability to influence events that affect their lives. This core belief is the foundation of human motivation, performance accomplishments, and emotional well-being. A meta-analysis concerning the relationship between self-efficacy and work-related performance indicates that there is a significant weighted average correlation (Stajkovic and Luthans, 1988), i.e. persons with high belief in their ability to influence events demonstrates higher work-performance than those that had a low belief.

It has also been found that a strong sense of personal efficacy is related to better health, higher achievement, and more social integration. If people believe that they can take action to solve a problem instrumentally they become more inclined to do so and feel more committed to this decision (Schwartz et al., 1997).

## 5.9 Perfection vs Good Enough

*“Perfection is not good but good enough is perfect.”*

As an entrepreneur it is important to understand that perfection can be harmful, not because of the perfect result but because perfection usually requires time, and timing can be more important than a perfect result. An idea can always be changed or altered to make improvements. In the book “The art of the start”, author Kawasaki (2004) explains that entrepreneurs should “fix, ship, fix, ship” rather than “fix, fix, fix, ship”. The idea will constantly be improved. Bird Dunn states “Perfection is the enemy of completion”. Reid Hoffman, founder of LinkedIn says: “One of the metaphors that I use for startups is you throw yourself off a cliff and assemble an airplane on the way down”. This implies that you cannot wait for the plane to be perfect; it has to be assembled quick and with an aim to be good enough for flying.

## 5.10 Collaboration

*“Individual vs team and competitors vs partners”*

Collaboration can be performed in different flavors; there can be collaborations between individuals, who build the teams in businesses. Financial and human resources often seem to be the most critical for a successful launch of the venture and these resources tend to be closely interrelated. When new ventures apply for early stage venture capital funds, the question of a well-balanced team with sufficient business experience is often raised by the potential investors to evaluate a project (Vanaelst, Clarysse, Wright, Lockett, Moray & S'Jegers, 2006).

And there can be collaborations between competing companies, so called co-opetition which is defined as a strategy embodying simultaneous cooperation and competition between firms (Gnyawali, He & Madhavan, 2008). Collaboration in business today is more of a survival trait than a buzzword. Because competing firms



possess relevant resources and face similar pressures, collaboration with competitors enables firms to acquire and create new technological knowledge and use the knowledge in pursuit of innovations (Gnyawali & Park, 2011). Increased popularity of co-opetition is evident by the fact that over 50% of collaborative relations (strategic alliances) are between firms within the same industry, that is, among competitors (Harbison and Pekar, 1998). Recently, scholars have suggested that especially small businesses in an industry need to collaborate with competitors so that they can create economies of scale, mitigate risk, and leverage resources together (Morris, Kocak & Özer 2007).

## 6. BMoE's GAME-BASED TEACHING APPROACH

The BMoE includes behavioral training and reflections around mindset. An inductive game-based teaching approach is used. Various games, referred to as the BMoE games, have been developed. A game can be defined as a structured playing, usually undertaken for enjoyment and sometimes used as an educational tool (Game, 2014). Or a game may be described as an "artificial situation" in which players engage in an artificial conflict against one another or all together against other forces. Games are regulated by rules, which may take the form of procedures, controls, obstacles, or penalties (Verzat et al., 2009). Furthermore, four key components of games are; goals, rules, challenges, and interaction. For the BMoE games this implies:

- Goals: a preset objective, aligned with the teaching objective
- Rules: limitations on how to achieve the goals
- Challenge: possibly competition, use of skills, etc to reinforce behavior
- Interaction: a setting for players to interact and communicate and even enjoy the process.

The idea is to let the games invoke a certain behavior or attitude of the student, e.g. Story Telling (BMoE behavior-2) or Good Enough (BMoE behavior-9). After the game, the students should reflect about his/her own behavior and compare it with that of successful entrepreneurs. The result of the reflection can be either an ignition for the student (confirming that he/she wants to become an entrepreneur), an extinguisher (confirming that the student does not want to be an entrepreneur) or a wake-up call (ok, I need to learn more about this attitude).

Examples of games that can be used for invoking a specific behavior, and games invoking a set of behaviors, are given below.

BMoE behavior-10 "Collaboration": Group-dynamics, win-win games emphasize the importance of cooperation, fun, sharing, caring and over-all group success in contrast to domination, egoistic behavior and personal gain. A game invoking this behavior was used in a marketing course in the Technology Business program at University of Jyväskylä, Finland (Hytonen and Makinen, 2011). Students

were given a problem to solve related to marketing communications and PR of a local technology SME. The students teams competed against each other and in the end best solution would win. The collaboration between students and the firm was initiated by a faculty member but after the first introduction students were on their own to build a relationship to the firm representatives. Students first task was to negotiate the team building, how to select members to a team. Ideally teams should have been truly multidisciplinary, so that the members bring to a team a wide variety of experiences and expertise. Next step was to identify further what was the exact problem with firm's marketing communication. Altogether 5 teams each having 4-5 students team continued to work for three weeks and in a final seminar presented their solutions to the panel of judges consisting of the founder/CEO and marketing manager of the firm and faculty members. The first prize was actually given to two teams which had also collaborated between themselves, co-opetited, e.g. they had shared their memos from initial meetings with the CEO which made them able to identify the problem faster, and then proceed to analyze the alternative courses of actions, formulate strategy and implement.

BMoE behavior-1 "Pay-It-Forward": The behavior of "asking the beneficiary of a good deed to repay it to others instead of the original benefactor" has been used in an educational activity at Lund University, Sweden. In the Technology Management program (Johnsson, Nilsson, Elingsdottir, Nilsson & Alsen, 2013), the students were asked to "assemble as much money as possible within 6 hours, and donate everything to charity". The students were free to come up with whatever (non-violent, fair, honest) idea of how this should be accomplished, but they only had 6 hours. The students were split into two teams of 20 students in each, and the two teams were competing against each other. Most money wins. When the activity was over, the students were asked to reflect about how they felt before, during and after the activity. This forced them to think about their attitude to the Pay-It-Forward behavior and their attitude of doing something that does not immediately give them any rewards or pay offs.

BMoE multi-behavior game "Scavenger game": The Scavenger game has been used in educational activities given by UC Berkeley, US (Singer, 2013). In this game, each team had 5 members, two of them were placed in a control room and 3 of them were part of the field-group. The field-group and group in the control room could only communicate via voice using a simple phone (no sms, texts, emails, videos etc). The group in the control room had no access to Internet. A five-liner instruction was given to the group in the control room, these instructions had to be communicated to the field team whose task was to find a location and take a picture of it. The field group that provided the group in the control room with a correct picture first, was the winning team. The task seems easy, if it was not for the fact that the 5 lines of instructions were given in a different language (e.g. Chinese, Russian, illustrations, Korean and Finnish). In this game an important behavior for the group in the control room was to

be a Story Teller (able to communicate the shapes of the letters in the instructions), and for the field group to be able to demonstrate Collaboration skills, e.g. each student working on the translation of one instruction. Furthermore, the teams had to appreciate Diversity in the people they encounter in order to have someone to help them with translation. As soon as they thought they knew a location that fulfills the instructions, they should go there and take a picture of it. A picture that is Good Enough to present the location. After completing the game, the students were asked to reflect about their own contributions, what behavior they felt comfortable with, and which they needed to practice more. The students also reflected about the strategies used by the different teams and their respective advantages and disadvantages.

## 7. FUTURE RESEARCH

Empirical research is currently ongoing with the aim of confirming or rejecting each of the ten (10) behavioral patterns characterizing a successful entrepreneur. Research is also being conducted in the area of tuning existing games and/or finding additional games reinforcing the behavioral patterns. It is also possible to envision games that stress the whole process of innovation and entrepreneurship. We are also pondering how can pedagogical outcomes of using a game-based teaching approach in entrepreneurial curricula be assessed, that is, whether it produces the desired changes in participants' knowledge or skills. The research project is partly performed within the Global Venture Lab Network at UC Berkeley which has approximately 25 universities from all continents (Global Venture Lab, 2014).

## 8. CONCLUSION

The Berkeley Method of Entrepreneurship is a holistic teaching and learning approach that enables engineers to be more entrepreneurial. It is currently under development. It encompasses three main elements; Infrastructure, Mindset and Tactics. Entrepreneurship is an essential ingredient for economic development for any country. Schools, colleges and universities can help fostering and accelerate the formation of successful entrepreneurs by including entrepreneurship in their curricula, as done by many schools, colleges and universities today. Most entrepreneurial curricula include the two traditional elements of Infrastructure and Tactics, however, only few curricula explicitly include the Mindset perspective.

BMoE is based on the hypothesis that the mindset of successful entrepreneurs can be characterized by a set of behavioral patterns and that an inductive game-based teaching approach is the best vehicle to introduce and reinforce those to students. A list of ten (10) behavioral patterns that captures the mindset of successful entrepreneurs is presented and a game-based teaching approach is used to let the students explore his/her current mindset and compare it with that of entrepreneurs. The result can be an ignition for the student (yes, I want to be

an entrepreneur), an extinguisher for the student (no, entrepreneurship is not for me) or a wake-up call (ok, I need to learn more about this attitude).

The pedagogy of BMoE is inductive in its nature and thereby focused around learning rather than teaching. The students are pushed to proactively develop their own understanding rather than waiting for someone to teach them what they need to know. The students are trained to frame problems and find ways to solve them and then reflect on what they've learned from the process, e.g. the outcome of a game.

BMoE has already been used successfully in engineering entrepreneurship education at Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology, Fung Institute for Engineering Leadership, UC Berkeley, US. Nevertheless, even though the first results are positive, the underlying hypotheses have to be further investigated and validated. Current research therefore aims at; confirming or rejecting each of the set of behavioral patterns, tuning existing games and/or finding additional games that reinforces the behavioral patterns, and finding ways of how to measure the success of using the game-based teaching approach in entrepreneurial curricula.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This work was carried out in cooperation between Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology (CET) at Fung Institute, UC Berkeley, USA, Jyväskylä University, Finland, and Lund University, Sweden. The authors would like to thank the Vinnova-funded research environment LCCC and the SSF-funded project PIC-opic at Lund University Sweden, as well as Tekes (the Finnish funding agency for technology and innovation) at Jyväskylä university, Finland.

## REFERENCES

- Allen, T. D., Eby, L. T., Poteet, M. L., Lentz, E., & Lima, L. (2004). Career Benefits Associated With Mentoring for Proteges: A Meta-Analysis. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 89(1): 127
- Bandura, A. (1997). *Self-efficacy: The exercise of control*. New York: Freeman.
- Bandura, A. (2001). Social cognitive theory: An agentic perspective. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 52(1): 1-26.
- Bieling, P. J., McCabe, R. E., & Antony, M. M. (2013). *Cognitive-behavioral therapy in groups*. New York: Guilford Press.
- Bjornskov, C. (2007). Determinants of generalized trust: A cross-country comparison. *Public Choice*, 130(1-2): 1-21.



CET Internal report nr 20140326.

PRELIMINARY VERSION (to be used for collecting comments and remarks). Limited circulation.

- Blank S. (2011). **The Pay-It-Forward Culture**, posted on [www.steveblank.com](http://www.steveblank.com) Sept 15, 2011.
- Bramwell, A., & Wolfe, D. A. (2008). Universities and regional economic development: The entrepreneurial University of Waterloo. *Research Policy*, 37(8): 1175-1187.
- Casson, M. (1995). *Entrepreneurship and Business Culture*. Aldershot: Edward Elgar.
- Christensen C. M. (1997). *The innovator's dilemma: When new technologies cause great firms to fail*. Boston: Harvard Business Press.
- Covey, S. (1989). *The 7 habits of highly successful people*. New York: Fireside.
- Deligiannidis L. & Noyes E. (2010). Visualizing Creative Destruction in Entrepreneurship Education, *In Proc. of Human System Interaction (HSI'10)*, 477-484, May 13-15 2010, Rzeszow, Poland.
- Denning, S. (2006). Effective storytelling: strategic business narrative techniques. *Strategy & Leadership*, 34(1): 42-48.
- Drucker, P.F. (1999). *Innovation and Entrepreneurship*. New York: HarperCollins.
- Dubini, P., Aldrich, H. (1991). Personal and extended networks are central to the entrepreneurial process. *Journal of Business Venturing*, 6(5): 305-313.
- Flemming L., Yang W., Golden J. (2010). Science and technology entrepreneurship for greater societal benefit: ideas for curricular innovation. *Advances in the Study of Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Economic Growth*, 21: 165-182.
- Freeman, J. B., Rule, N. O., Adams Jr, R. B., & Ambady, N. (2009). Culture shapes a mesolimbic response to signals of dominance and subordination that associates with behavior. *Neuroimage*, 47(1): 353-359.
- Fukuyama F. (1995). *Trust: Social Virtues and the Creation of Prosperity*. New York: Free press.
- Game (2014). Wikipedia [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org), as per 2014-01-07.
- Games in Education (2013). [gamesined.wikispaces.com](http://gamesined.wikispaces.com), as per 2013-11-27.
- Gartner, W. B. and Baker, T. (2010). A plausible history and exploration of Stevenson's definition of entrepreneurship", *Frontiers of Entrepreneurship Research*, 30(4): 2.
- Global Venture Lab (2013). <http://funginstitute.berkeley.edu/programs-center-entrepreneurship-and-technology-cet/venture-network>, as per 2013-12-12.
- Global Venture Lab Network Inaugural Summit (2013). Report, Published on homepage of Fung institute: <http://funginstitute.berkeley.edu/publications>, as per 2013-12-04.
- Gnyawali, D. R., & Park, B. J. R. (2011). Co-opetition between giants: Collaboration with competitors for technological innovation. *Research Policy*, 40(5): 650-663.
- Gnyawali, D.R., He, J.Y., Madhavan, R., 2006. Impact of co-opetition on firm competitive behavior: An empirical examination. *Journal of Management* 32 (4): 507-530.
- Hammond, L. H. (1916). *In the Garden of Delight*. Thomas Y. Crowell Company.
- Hwang & Horowitz (2012). *The Rainforest: the Secret to Building the Next Silicon Valley*. Los Altos Hills: Regenwald.
- Hytonen, S. & Makinen, K. (2011). *Greating Great Enablers. Global Venture Lab Exploration in Finland*. Jyväskylä: Personal Book Publishing.
- Johnsson C., Nilsson C.-H., Erlingsdottir G., Nilsson F., Ahlsen G. (2013). "Metacognition and Learning Journals in Higher Education", Accepted for publication International Journal of Economics and Management Engineering (Vol.3 Nr.4).
- Johnsson C. (2014). "Fostering Automatic Control students to become innovators", submitted to 19th World Congress International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC), South Africa, September 2014.
- Kawasaki G (2004). *The Art of the Start*. New York: Penguin Books.
- Knight F. H. (2002). *Risk, Uncertainty and Profit*. Beard Books.
- McCraw T. K (2009). Prophet of Innovation: Joseph Schumpeter and Creative Destruction, *Journal of Economic History*, 69(1): 324-325.
- Moore G.A. (2006). *Crossing the Chasm*. Harper Business Essentials.
- Morris, M. H., A. Kocak, and A. Özer (2007). Coopetition as a Small Business Strategy: Implications for Performance, *Journal of Small Business Strategy* 18(1): 35-55.

CET Internal report nr 20140326.

PRELIMINARY VERSION (to be used for collecting comments and remarks). Limited circulation.

Pay it Forward (2013). Wikipedia [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org), as per 2013-11-25.

Prince M. and Felder R. (2006). Inductive teaching and learning methods: Definitions, comparisons and research bases. *Journal of Engineering Education*, 95(2):123–138.

Read, S., Sarasvathy, S., Song, M., Dew, N. & Wiltbank, R. (2009). Marketing Under Uncertainty: Logic of an Effectual Approach. *Journal of Marketing*, 73(3): 1-18.

Richard, O. C., Ismail, K. M., Bhuian, S. N., & Taylor, E. C. (2009). Mentoring in supervisor–subordinate dyads: Antecedents, consequences, and test of a mediation model of mentorship. *Journal of Business Research*, 62(11): 1110-1118.

Ries, E. (2011). *The Lean Startup: How today's entrepreneurs use continuous innovation to create radically successful businesses*. Random House Digital.

Rogers E. (1996). *Diffusion of Innovations*. New York: Free Press.

Sarasvathy, S. D. (2001). Causation And Effectuation: Toward A Theoretical Shift From Economic Inevitability To Entrepreneurial Contingency. *Academy of Management Review*, 26 (2): 243-264.

Schumpeter J. (1934). *The Theory of Economic Development*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Schwarzer, R., Bäßler, J., Kwiatek, P., Schröder, K., & Zhang, J. X. (1997). The Assessment of Optimistic Self-beliefs: Comparison of the German, Spanish, and Chinese Versions of the General Self-efficacy Scale. *Applied Psychology*, 46(1): 69-88.

Shepherd, D. A. 2004. Educating entrepreneurship students about emotion and learning from failure. *Academy of Management Learning & Education*, 3(3): 274–287.

Sidhu I. (2013). Lecturenotes of CET, The Fung Institute, University of California Berkeley, USA.

Siegel D. (2009). From the Guest Editors: New Developments in Technology Management Education, *Academy of Management Learning and Education*, 2009, 8(3): 321-323.

Singer K. (2013). Lecture notes of CET, The Fung Institute, University of California Berkeley, USA.

Stajkovic A.D., and Luthans F. (1988). Self-efficacy and work-related performance: A meta-analysis. *Psychological Bulletin*, 124(2): 240-261.

Tarascio, V. J. (1985). Cantillon's Essai: A Current Perspective". *Journal of Libertarian Studies*, 7 (2): 249-257.

Thurik R., Audretsch D. (1998). The Knowledge society, entrepreneurship and unemployment, Scales Research Reports H199801, *EIM Business and Policy Research*, 1998.

Vanaelst, I., Clarysse, B., Wright, M., Lockett, A., Moray, N., & S'Jegers, R. (2006). Entrepreneurial team development in academic spinouts: An examination of team heterogeneity. *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, 30(2): 249-271.

van Stel, A., Carree, M., & Thurik, R. (2010). *The Relationship between Entrepreneurship and Economic Development: is it U-shaped?* New York: Now Publishers Inc.

Verzat, C., Byrne, J., & Fayolle, A. (2009). Tangling with spaghetti: Pedagogical lessons from games. *Academy of Management Learning & Education*, 8(3): 356-369.

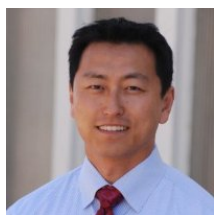
Wennekers, S., Van Wennekers, A., Thurik, R., & Reynolds, P. (2005). Nascent entrepreneurship and the level of economic development. *Small Business Economics*, 24(3): 293-309.

### **ABOUT THE AUTHORS**



**Ikhlalq Sidhu:** Ikhlalq Sidhu is the founding Director of the Center for Entrepreneurship & Technology and Chief Scientist and founder of UC Berkeley's Fung Institute for Engineering Leadership. He teaches and

advises projects in graduate, undergraduate, and professional programs. In 2009, he received the IEOR Emerging Area Professor Award at UC Berkeley, CA, USA.



**Kenneth Singer:** Ken is a serial entrepreneur, technology executive, university lecturer, and director and advisor to numerous startups in the US and Europe. He currently serves as managing director at the Center for Entrepreneurship & Technology, Fung

Institute, at UC Berkeley, USA. Ken is on the board of several startups and continues to advise and invest in some of the most promising mobile companies in the Silicon Valley, Berlin and Paris.



**Mari Suoranta:** is a Visiting Scholar at the Center for Entrepreneurship & Technology and the Fung Institute for Engineering Leadership, at UC Berkeley. She has visited UC Berkeley also 2008, 2010-2011 as a Fulbright Senior Fellow. Her current research includes entrepreneurial and start-up marketing, venture growth,

and interdisciplinary management education. Mari is an Assistant Professor of Marketing in the School of Business and Economics at University of Jyväskylä, Finland. She holds a Ph.D. in Marketing from University of Jyväskylä, Finland.



**Charlotta Johnsson:** is a Visiting Scholar at the Center for Entrepreneurship & Technology and the Fung Institute for Engineering Leadership, at UC Berkeley. Her research interests include; technology management and innovations, automation, operations management, and pedagogy. She holds a position as Associate Professor at Lund

University, Sweden where she also serves as the Program Director for the master program Technology Management. Charlotta Johnsson has PhD in Automatic Control from Lund University, Sweden.