

**Research in Entrepreneurship and Small Business (RENT) 2024 Conference  
Manuscript Abstract**

**Nurturing Entrepreneurial Intention of PhD Students Across Institutional Logics: a Multi-Group Analysis**

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**Full reference**

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**Abstract**

**Objective:** This paper seeks to assess whether alignment between curricular/non-curricular interventions and institutional logics is associated with entrepreneurial intention among STEM and Medical Sciences PhD students, considering their differentiated embeddedness in the entrepreneurial logic.

**Prior Work & Approach:** Drawing upon institutional logics theory and cognitive load theory, we address the research question by testing a multi-group structural equation model on a sample of 586 doctoral students.

**Results:** Perception of the university's encouragement of entrepreneurship is positively and significantly associated with entrepreneurial intention among STEM PhD students. Attendance of entrepreneurship education is positively and significantly associated with entrepreneurial intention among medical sciences PhD students. Opportunity recognition capacity partially mediates the relationship between perceptions of their university's encouragement of entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial intention among STEM PhD students, but not the relationship between attendance at entrepreneurship education and entrepreneurial intention among their medical sciences counterparts.

**Implications and value:** This paper provides an application of institutional logics theory to the study of entrepreneurial intention and demonstrates that disciplinary adherence to specific institutional logics conditions the effectiveness of different types of university interventions in raising entrepreneurial intention among PhD students.