CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Informing the IAASB Standard Setting Process
IAAER – KPMG Research Opportunities – Round 2

The International Association for Accounting Education and Research (IAAER), KPMG International and the KPMG Foundation are pleased to invite research proposals under the *Informing the IAASB Standard Setting Process Research Program*. The program supports scholarly research directed at informing the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board's (IAASB) decision process. Up to five research grants will be awarded under this program. Funding for this program has been provided by KPMG International and the KPMG Foundation.

Program Objective

The call promotes and supports research directed at developing theory and evidence to inform the IAASB's international standards-setting decision process. Proposals pertinent to the objectives of the IAASB to develop high-quality International Standards for auditing, quality control, review, other assurance, and related services, and to facilitate the convergence of international and national standards, are welcome.

The IAASB is particularly interested in proposals addressing:

i) The implications of financial reporting and other trends and developments on auditing, other assurance and related services;

ii) Conceptual aspects of assurance standards; or

iii) International adoption and implementation of the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs), International Standards on Quality Control, and the International Standards on other assurance and related services.

A selection of topics of interest follows. Please note that the list is not intended to be exhaustive.
- Auditor association with preliminary announcements: user perceptions, conceptual and practical issues, opportunities and related considerations in the international context
- The Integrated Reporting initiative and its opportunities and implications for International Standards
- Professional skepticism in audits of financial statements
- Implications of adoption of, or convergence with, ISAs on audit quality

- Value of the audit in enhancing the reliability of financial reporting
- Cross border differences or difficulties in adoption, implementation and enforcement of the International Standards
- Implementation of the International Standards to audits of smaller entities, including practices and insights arising from interpretations or regulatory inspections and proportionate application of ISAs
- Implementation of the International Standard on assurance reports on controls at a service organization and the experiences of service organizations, service auditors, user entities, user auditors and others

Proposals that relate to topics not on the IAASB's current agenda are also welcome, to the extent they may help inform project considerations in the IAASB's post-2014 strategy and work program.

In addition to proposals that address issues having relevance to the longer term, the **IAASB welcomes proposals that are capable of producing findings relevant in a short time frame.** For such projects, an accelerated deliverable timetable will be agreed in the contract between the Program Advisory Committee and the authors. For example, proposals that relate to the IAASB's current project on Auditor Reporting are encouraged. Any such proposals, however, should be designed with flexibility to relate to the Board's planned exposure of proposed standards in mid-2013 and should be completed in a time frame that coincides with the IAASB's planned deliberations of responses thereto in early 2014. **Early submission of such proposals is greatly encouraged.**

For information on the IAASB 2012-2014 Strategy and Work Program, please consult the IAASB's website at
www.ifac.org/publications-resources/iaasb-strategy-and-work-program-2012-2014?

For more information on the IAASB's Auditor Reporting and other current projects, please consult
www.ifac.org/auditing-assurance/projects?

Program Funding

Up to five research projects will be funded. Grants will be for $US 25,000 each. Grants will be paid in three installments (following successful completion of each project deliverable) and may be applied to cover travel costs associated with attending program events and/or direct costs associated with the research.

IAAER invites proposals from research teams domiciled anywhere in the world. Proposals are especially encouraged from research teams whose members are from different regions of the world. All research approaches and paradigms are welcome including modeling, archival, experimental, surveys and field analyses. Funding decisions will be made by the Program Advisory Committee.

Project Deliverables
Between December 1 and December 15, 2012 contracts will be signed by research teams. Each contract will specify interim milestones, deliverables, and expected delivery dates. Key dates to be agreed to in the contract include:

Spring 2013
- Research designs and interim results will be presented at a by-invitation one-day IAAER workshop (location to be announced). Teams will be required to submit interim results to the Program Advisory Committee two weeks prior to the conference. The first grant installment of $8,000 will be dispersed to each team following the workshop.

Fall 2013
- Research teams will present interim research findings via a conference call. Teams will be required to submit interim results to the Program Advisory Committee two weeks prior to the conference call. The second grant installment of $8,000 will be dispersed to each team following the conference call.

Spring 2014
- Final results will be presented at a by-invitation one-day IAAER workshop (location to be announced). The final deliverable will focus on highlighting the significance of the findings to the IAASB. Teams will be required to submit final results to the Program Advisory Committee two weeks prior to the workshop. The third grant installment of $9,000 will be dispersed to each team following the workshop.

The above deliverables will be set for projects addressing issues having relevance to the longer term. **For projects capable of producing findings relevant in a short time frame an accelerated timetable will be agreed**. Early submission of such proposals is encouraged.

Research Proposal Format
Research proposals should be concise and not exceed 10 pages (1.5 spacing and 12 font). All proposals should be in English. Proposals should contain the following information:

- Clear and concise definitions and description of the:
    1. Research question
    2. Research objectives
    3. Research method to be employed
- Description of the proposed research activities
- References to leading studies on the topic (attach a reference list not exceeding two pages)
- Indication of how the proposed research will inform the IAASB decision process for at least one current agenda item.

Each proposal should additionally:

- Designate a Principal Investigator who will have primary contractual responsibility for the research project
- Include a curriculum vitae for each member of the research team

Publication of Research Findings
Research teams may publish their findings in the outlet of their choice.

Members of the Program Advisory Committee include:

IAASB
Prof. Arnold Schilder, IAASB Chairman
Prof. Bill Kinney, IAASB Member
Prof. Annette Köhler, IAASB Member
James Gunn, IAASB Technical Director
Jon Rowden, IAASB Technical Advisor

KPMG
Craig Crawford, Partner

IAAER
Prof. Katherine Schipper, Vice President Research
Prof. Donna Street, Director of Research and Educational Activities and Past President

Submission Deadline

The proposal submission deadline for the *Informing the IAASB Standard Setting Process Research Grant Program* is **October 1, 2012**. Funding decisions will be announced as soon as the evaluation process is complete, but no later than **November 30, 2012.**

All proposals are to be submitted electronically to the Program Coordinator at dstreet1@udayton.edu.

Proposal text and supporting materials should be in a single electronic file in either Word or PDF format.

Questions about the program or proposal process should be directed to dstreet1@udayton.edu.