

13th BELM Annual Corporate Finance Conference

Lancaster, UK | 17 – 18 September 2026

(Hosted by Department of Accounting and Finance at Lancaster University Management School)

Venue: Lecture Theatre 2, Lancaster University Management School, Bailrigg, Lancaster LA1 4YX

Agenda | Day 1 | Thursday 17th September

(Presentation 25 mins; discussion 10 mins and Q&A 5 mins.)

12:00 - 13:00	<i>Lunch & Registration</i>
13:00 - 13:10	<i>Welcome</i>
13:10 - 14:30	<i>Session 1</i>
13:10 - 13:50	<u>"Credit market competition and the agency costs of tiered loan"</u> Presenter: Sonny Biswas, Henley Business School - University of Reading Discussant: Roberto Steri, University of Luxembourg
13:50 - 14:30	<u>"Financial Contracting and Discount Rates"</u> Presenter: Roberto Steri, University of Luxembourg Discussant: Ben Tsou, Alliance Manchester Business School
14:30 - 15:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:00 - 17:00	<i>Session 2</i>
15:00 - 15:40	<u>"Inventor Entrepreneurship"</u> Presenter: Qi Chen, Alliance Manchester Business School Discussant: TBC
15:40 - 16:20	<u>"Venture Capital and the Decline of IPOs"</u> Presenter: Jae Yung Kim, University of Exeter Business School Discussant: Armin Schwienbacher, SKEMA Business School
16:20 - 17:00	<u>Guest Paper TBC</u> Presenter: Armin Schwienbacher, SKEMA Business School Discussant: Amedeo De Cesari, Alliance Manchester Business School
17:00	<i>Organizing Committee Annual Meeting</i>
19:00	Dinner – Bay Horse Inn (by invitation only)

Agenda | Day 2 | Friday 18th September

(Presentation 25 mins; discussion 10 mins and Q&A 5 mins.)

8:45 - 9:10	Welcome and Coffee
9:10 - 10:30	Session 3
9:10 - 9:50	<u>"The Real Effects of NGO Activism"</u> Presenter: Esed Selmani Herab, University of Exeter Business School Discussant: Boris Nikolov, University of Lausanne and Swiss Finance Institute
9:50 - 10:30	<u>"Does Corporate Natural Disaster Preparedness Pay Off?"</u> Presenter: Ziyue Huang, Alliance Manchester Business School Discussant: Chendi Zhang, University of Exeter Business School
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 - 11:40	<u>"Beyond Peers: Cross-Industry Competition and Strategic Financing"</u> Presenter: Boris Nikolov, University of Lausanne and Swiss Finance Institute Discussant: Ning Gao, Alliance Manchester Business School
11:45 - 12:45	Lunch
13:00 - 14:20	Session 4
13:00 - 13:40	<u>"Environmental Uncertainty and the Quality of Environmental Disclosures: Evidence from Extreme Weather Events"</u> Presenter: Maria Cherdnychenko, Lancaster University Management School Discussant: Jenny Chu, Judge Business School - University of Cambridge
13:40 - 14:20	<u>"Litigation Threats and Sell-Side Analyst Recommendations"</u> Presenter: Jenny Chu, Judge Business School - University of Cambridge Discussant: Grzegorz Trojanowski, University of Exeter Business School
14:20 - 14:50	Coffee break
14:50 - 16:10	Session 5
14:50 - 15:30	<u>"Corporate Campaign Contributions in Climate Policymaking"</u> Presenter: Yanyu Liu, University of Bristol Business School Discussant: Mahmoud Gad, Lancaster University Management School
15:30 - 16:10	<u>"From Headlines to Rulings: Judges' Exposure to Corporate Environmental Incidents and Judicial Decision-Making in Environmental Litigation"</u> Presenter: Cong Tao, Lancaster University Management School Discussant: Neslihan Ozkan, University of Bristol Business School
16:10	Closing Remarks