



FFI in 2011: 25 Years as the Trusted Resource for the Family Enterprise Field



As the dominant form of business organization worldwide, family enterprises continue to make a unique contribution to the social vitality and economic wealth of communities across the globe.

This year, FFI celebrates a quarter century of leadership as the global membership association of choice for advisors, consultants, educators, and researchers who serve the family enterprise field.

Guiding an evolutionary course for the field

A generation ago, a small group of pioneering professionals, educators, and family business executives established FFI - anticipating that family businesses would increasingly rely upon integrated knowledge, advanced skills, and more professional advisory services. These visionaries guided FFI on an evolutionary course of exemplary interdisciplinary education, research, and collaboration.



FFI today is on the forefront of innovation, breakthrough scholarship, and family enterprise professional best practices. Our more than 1,500 individual and organizational members are interdisciplinary and well-educated, experienced, geographically diverse, virtually sophisticated, and evolving.

- ◆ FFI's expanding educational programs have attracted new collaborators in 2011 that include the Ted Rogers School of Management at Ryerson University, Toronto; Family Business Australia; University of Miami School of Business Administration; and The Chinese University of Hong Kong.
- ◆ FFI's certificates in Family Business Advising and Family Wealth Advising continue to raise standards of professional competency in the field.
- ◆ Family Business Review is the oldest scholarly publication devoted exclusively to the exploration of family enterprise dynamics and is widely recognized for its impact on its field of study.
- ◆ The annual International Conference is the preeminent family enterprise event, convening prominent family enterprise practitioners, educators, and researchers along with social commentators, authors, journalists, and family business owners at venues around the world.
- ◆ ffi.org is a global information resource offering the next generation in family enterprise connectivity. Last year the site experienced unique page visits from 174 different countries.
- ◆ Engagement in FFI's social media initiative continues to grow through members-only LinkedIn discussion groups and to the larger global community via FFIGlobal on Twitter, TheFFIGlobalChannel on YouTube, and Wikipedia.

After 25 years, FFI remains unwavering in producing programs of the highest quality for its members while continuing to serve as an essential resource to family enterprises, governments, institutions, and the public at large. There is no better time than during this celebratory year to engage with FFI in strengthening the family enterprise field for generations to come.

Judy Green

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