

# THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING

## Departmental Research Seminar



Inventor CEO involvement and  
firm exploitative and exploratory innovation  
By

Prof. Steve Boivie  
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**Date : 13 Mar 2024 (WED)**  
**Time : 2:30 – 4 pm**  
**Venue : M714**

### Abstract

Recent research suggests that inventor CEOs increase innovative output in large established firms. Using a sample of S&P 1500 firms between 1994 and 2010, and inventors' engagement in firm patenting as an indicator of hands-on involvement, we theorize and find that continued involvement by inventor CEOs in their firms' innovative activities is also associated with more exploitative and less exploratory innovation. These effects are stronger for insiders, and especially for founders, but weaker for outsiders and when the firm's board has greater industry experience diversity. We therefore contribute to research on strategic leadership and corporate innovation by showing how inventor CEO's hands-on involvement, in isolation and in combination with other important features of the leadership context, influence the type of innovation pursued by their firms.

**Prof. Steve Boivie** is the Carroll & Dorothy Conn Chair in New Ventures Leadership at the Mays Business School at Texas A&M University. He received his Ph.D. in strategic management from the University of Texas at Austin, his master's degree from Brigham Young University, and his bachelor's degree from Utah State University. He is primarily interested in how behavioral and social forces affect human actors at the top of the organization and he conducts research in the areas of corporate governance, top executives, and directors. His research has been published in the *Academy of Management Journal*, *Strategic Management Journal*, *Organization Science*, *Journal of Applied Psychology*, *Academy of Management Annals*, and *Journal of Management*. Steve's research has also been mentioned in a number of press outlets including the *Wall Street Journal*, *Harvard Business Review* online, *Forbes.com*, *IR Magazine*, *Bloomberg*, *The Economist*, and more. He is currently serving on the editorial boards of *Academy of Management Journal*, *Academy of Management Review*, and *Strategic Management Journal*.

**All interested are welcome.**



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