

AN EMPIRICAL STUDY ON THE INFLUENCING ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION FACTORS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BASED ON THE THEORY OF PLANNED BEHAVIOR

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ABSTRACT: *Intentions are identified as the best predictor of behaviors. Relied on the Sapero's entrepreneurial event theory, the study built its conceptual model based on the Theory of Planned Behavior. The study used structural equation model in analyzing the sampled data of 250 responses, which were selected through simple random sampling in Jiangsu Province in China to assess the entrepreneurial intentions factors of international students in Jiangsu University and Jiangsu University of Science and Technology. The findings of the study revealed that opportunity identification had positive and significant impact on international students' entrepreneurial intentions.*

KEYWORDS: Intentions, International Students, Enabling Environment, Personal Traits, Opportunity Identification

INTRODUCTION.

The contribution of enterprises are essential in the economic spheres due to their ability to mobilize resources, create jobs and generate wealth. Entrepreneurship plays an important role in the economic and social development of countries. Stressing on the importance of entrepreneurship, the 2014 G20 final communique of Leaders' Summit pointed out that entrepreneurship is an important driver for job creation and economic growth. They therefore called for entrepreneurship-oriented policies to reduce youth unemployment (G20, 2014). In buttressing the importance of entrepreneurship to national economies, J. M. S. Álvarez, Martínez, and Cuervo-Arango (2014), opined that entrepreneurship is important for having a healthy and rich economic structure characterized by high well-being levels. As a result, in the economic, political and social fields a wide range of private and even public policies have been implemented aimed at entrepreneurship (C. Álvarez, Noguera, & Urbano, 2012). Similarly, in terms of their contribution towards economic growth, enterprises are considered essential in the development of a territory, as they contribute to the rejuvenation of the socio-productive fabric, re-launching regional areas and boosting the innovative process (Santos, 2012).

Governments have been exploring ways of utilizing the potentials of the youth towards creating new venture business (Reed, 2000). Some scholars are of the view that governments consider entrepreneurship because entrepreneurs are the driving force behind healthy economies. This explains why governments encourage new businesses since they are one of the cornerstones in any initiative geared towards employment generation and also act as a driving force for creativity and risk taking (Scott & Storper, 2006). In the view of Shapiro (2014) economies with a greater share of self-employment exhibit faster economic recovery. In the contrary, Fernández-Serrano and Romero (2013) stated that the issue of entrepreneurship is of particular interest when governments realize that the state alone is unable to ensure adequate levels of

production and employment, thereby resulting in high unemployment. Also, Fayolle (2007), argued that there is an increasing pace of globalization and limited roles of governments in creating jobs. As a result, promoting entrepreneurship has become one of the policy options for nations to sustain growth and create more jobs in the economy. However, this research established that governments embrace entrepreneurship because it is a driving force behind healthy economies as well as a good alternative means of solving unemployment situations.

The intention of becoming entrepreneur is an important factor in looking at entrepreneurship in any country. It is however, note stating that even though intentions form the base of a person becoming an entrepreneur, it is not every intention that necessarily translate into becoming an entrepreneur since there are conglomerate of factors right from the point of conceiving the intention that affect entrepreneurial startups. Some scholars emphasized that entrepreneurial behavior is a type of planned behavior (Bird, 1989; Herman & Stefanescu, 2017). Models of intentions are therefore appropriate for explanations and predictions of that behavior. Different models have been developed with the purpose of analyzing factors affecting the decision to start an entrepreneurial career. Among the models are Entrepreneurial Event Model (Shapiro & Sokol, 1982), the Theory of Planned Behavior (Ajzen, 2001), Entrepreneurial Attitude Orientation (Robinson, Stimpson, Huefner, & Hunt, 1991), and the Entrepreneurial Potential Model (N. F. Krueger & Brazeal, 1994). Entrepreneurial intention is considered as the key to understanding the long and complex process in entrepreneurship.

There are many reasons why individuals engage in entrepreneurial activities. A lot of research has been carried out in finding out the reasons that prompt people to engage in entrepreneurship. The individual willingness to undertake entrepreneurship may both be as a result of the pull and push forces. These factors include; unemployment, wealth creation, to be able to manage one's own time, to be own boss and among others. With respect to unemployment as a reason for engaging in entrepreneurship, (Feather, 1992; Klyver, Nielsen, & Evald, 2013; Shapiro, 2014) have found a certain relationship between the degree of unemployment and the growth rate of self-employment, which implies that self-employment increases when salary-based employment opportunities are limited.

In recent times, many youths have business ideas however only few have the capacity and ability to turn these into viable businesses (S Shane, Locke, & Collins, 2012; Timmons & Spinelli, 1999). They further stressed that successful nature of new business start-up depends on youth' readiness to turn their ideas into business. This means that the discovery of opportunity and ability to utilize the opportunity is a function of the readiness of people to engage in such entrepreneurial activities. Barringer and Ireland (2015), revealed that the low level of untapped business opportunity around is as a result of lack of necessary skills to run such entrepreneurial activities. In order to facilitating the preparedness of the youth to establishing their own businesses, governments and companies adopt different approaches such as business facilities, bank loans and seed capital. In some situations, funds are made available for people to present viable proposals to qualify for accessing such funds to set startups. However, these efforts adopted by governments and companies do not translate into the desired outcomes since many graduates especially the youth are still not involved in setting up their own businesses. This has called for more work to be done in this field to explore why the low involvement of young graduates in entrepreneurial activities. It is evident in the work of Hempel and Fiala (2011) that there are few research evidences on youth entrepreneurial engagements.

This paper is focusing on entrepreneurial opportunity identification, personal traits and enabling environment and how they affect international students' entrepreneurial intentions. The paper aims at providing empirical results to academic intuitions to help prepare students to set up their own businesses. The findings of the paper will complement efforts made to tackle the issue of unemployment among graduates from the universities, who increasingly seek to be employed rather than creating jobs for themselves as well as employing other people.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The study below examines scholarly works in the area of entrepreneurial intentions and the theories underpinning entrepreneurial behavior. It also looks at the relationships between entrepreneurial intentions and personal traits, enabling environment and opportunity identification.

Key definition

Entrepreneurial intentions

Intentions have been recognized by myriad of researchers as the best predictor of entrepreneurial behavior over the past decades (N. F. Krueger, Reilly, & Carsrud, 2000). Ajzen (1991) states that intention factors are complicated and difficult to study. Psychologists and Philosophers define intention as a cognitive state that is temporally prior and immediately proximate to the target behavior. Ajzen (1991), states that intentions are conceived as immediate antecedents of actual behavior. The researcher define entrepreneurial intentions as mental conceptions, which influence the entrepreneur towards desiring or wishing to establish a business.

In the view of Mauer, Neergaard, and Linstad (2017), both personality traits and environment can influence entrepreneurial intentions. However, some scholars in the entrepreneurship field argued that "situational factors" like inflation rate or business regulation and "individual variables" such as personality traits do not give a deeper understanding of the formation of entrepreneurial intentions (Ajzen, 1991). N. F. Krueger et al. (2000), further stressed that relying on only individual and environmental factors in predicting entrepreneurial intentions can lead to small explanatory power conclusion.

This study therefore employs a comprehensive way of measuring entrepreneurial intentions by not relying on one direction but rather focusing on personal traits, opportunity identification and enabling environment variables.

Entrepreneurial intentions are currently measured by single variable and multivariate methods. Whilst some researchers adopt measuring variables like individual expectations, anticipated behavior and preferences, other researchers employ the multivariate method in measuring entrepreneurial intentions. This improves the validity and reliability of measurement as well as reducing errors that the single variable method is unable to do. This study equally adopt a multivariate method in assessing the entrepreneurial intentions of international students.

Personality traits.

Entrepreneurial intentions are the starting point of the entrepreneurial process. Many scholars have contributed significantly to the literature on entrepreneurial intentions using different

models. Literature on entrepreneurial intentions over the years established some level of relationship between motivation and personal traits on one hand and entrepreneurial intentions and preparedness. Personality traits have been identified as having influence on individual conceiving entrepreneurial intentions. Some of these personality traits are considered by the researcher to serve as intrinsic motivation for individuals, which can influence their intentions towards entrepreneurship. There have been a strong evidence on personal traits as factors to predict entrepreneurial intentions (Ciavarella, et.al, 2004). However, Gartner (1985) argued that personality traits could not be taken as an effective reasons or explanation of people choice of starting a business. Dominantly identified personal traits in many literatures include willingness to take risk; the need for achievement; to be own boss/independence and self-confidence/self-efficacy as having influences entrepreneurial intentions.

De Pillis and Reardon (2007), viewed risk taking as the tendency of an individual to take risk. Individual who are willing to tolerate higher risks are more likely to venture into entrepreneurship than those that have lower risk tolerance. According to Douglas and Shepherd (2000) individuals with higher risk taking propensity are stronger in making decisions autonomously and the higher they intent to entrepreneur.

The desire for independence is demonstrated to influence individual intentions towards entrepreneurship. S Shane, Locke, and Collins (2003), define the desire for independence as the use of personal judgement on entrepreneurial behaviors rather than being moved to act through external factors. For Barringer and Ireland (2015) the desire for independence occurs when individuals want to be their own boss. Some empirical evidence has shown that entrepreneurial decisions are indifferent in relation to desire for independence. It is argued that young individuals are naturally self-starters because many of them guide their desire for independence by passion (Kew, Herrington, Litovsky, & Gale, 2013).

Need for achievement has been empirically identified as a factor, which influences a person's inclination to entrepreneurship. It is noted that people who seek to achieve in life will always go the extra mile to perceive establishing a business even if there are odds since he/she is motivated by the fact that accomplishing that mission is what he/she desires. Pihie and Sani (2009), revealed in their study that the need for achievement is the tendency that motivates an individual who desires to start a business.

Another personal trait, which has received more attention in entrepreneurial intentions discourse, is self-efficacy/ self-confidence. Self-confidence within the existing entrepreneurial literature is pointed out as one of the main antecedents of entrepreneurial attitude (Fernández-Pérez, Alonso-Galicia, Rodríguez-Ariza, & del Mar Fuentes-Fuentes, 2015). Self-efficacy is defined as a power or capacity to produce a desired effect (Liñán, Santos, & Fernández, 2011; Shook & Bratianu, 2010). N. F. Krueger and Brazeal (1994), opined that individual's judgement on the feasibility of starting a business emanates from the judgement on their self-efficacy of implementing and planning their entrepreneurial behavior. In further supporting self-efficacy as a key factor in shaping entrepreneurial intentions, Boyd and Vozikis (1994) stress that self-efficacy influences not only the formation of individual entrepreneurial intentions, but also has the possibility of creating a firm in the future. Self-confidence is believed to make it easier to convince others and improves individual motivation so that people keep making effort until the established goals are achieved (Bénabou & Tirole, 2002). In their research, Miranda, Chamorro-Mera, and Rubio (2017) also established a positive relationship between self-confidence and entrepreneurial intention. The findings of Peng, Lu, and Kang

(2012) indicated that self-efficacy positively influenced students' entrepreneurial intentions, which was preceded, by positive influence of subjective norm.

From the literature reviewed on the influence of personal traits on entrepreneurial intentions, research hypotheses to establish the relationship between the two included: People with proactive personality will associate with entrepreneurial intentions (Crant, 1996); University students' big five personality traits significantly influence their entrepreneurship (Leutner, Ahmetoglu, Akhtar, & Chamorro-Premuzic, 2014); Personality traits predict entrepreneurial intentions (Mould, 2014); There is a relationship between risk taking tendency and entrepreneurial intentions of students (Uddin & Bose, 2012). This study therefore based on the above hypotheses construct the hypothesis;

Hypothesis 1: There is a positive and significant relationship between personal traits and entrepreneurial preparedness of international students.

Opportunity identification.

Opportunity identification is another factor that influences the intentions to engage in entrepreneurial activities. Some studies revealed that opportunity identification has positive and significant effect on readiness towards new venture creation (A. O Seun & Kalsom, 2015a; A.O Seun & Kalsom, 2015b). Baron (2004), defines opportunity as perceived means of generating economic value that have not been previously exploited or currently being tapped by other people. Opportunity identification can also be viewed as the way people perceive opportunity or choose their own business, despite having the option of generating income through employment opportunities at the time of considering to start a new business (Ellis & Williams, 2011). The findings of Olugbola (2017) also buttressed the point that opportunity identification positively influences entrepreneurial readiness. These findings are supported by previous studies that suggest that once an entrepreneur is ready to start a firm, new venture opportunities become apparent (Barringer & Ireland, 2015; Stam, Audretsch, & Meijaard, 2008). This means recognizing business opportunity among the newly business start-up may yield important insight to the entrepreneurship process. Various components of opportunity identification are recognized by previous studies. The possession of prior knowledge, social networks, and superior cognitive capabilities play an important role that helps students to notice opportunities that may influence the readiness to start a firm (Gaglio & Katz, 2001; Mitchell et al., 2002; Scott Shane, 2000). However, this study considers only prior knowledge and social networks as factors that influences opportunity identification by students.

Gartner (2004), revealed that social networking was very important source of information in discovering opportunities. Qing (2009), in his review noted that half of the business opportunity is recognized from social network, and the other half from the individual itself. In addition, Gartner (2004) indicated that 62% of social network sources of opportunity comes from business associates, friend and family. Gartner highlighted that opportunity recognition can occur at the beginning of entrepreneurship process as well as recurring step in the business life cycle. Other research findings revealed that business and personal network have positive impact in influencing academic interest in new business set-ups (Fernández-Pérez et al., 2015).

Individuals need knowledge to recognize the opportunity. Several studies revealed that prior knowledge in business helps entrepreneurs to recognize business opportunities (Markman & Baron, 2003; Wiklund & Shepherd, 2008). According to Corbett (2005) knowledge in the form of experience has been recognized as a primary factor in one's ability to identify opportunity.

Krueger (1993) revealed that the prior entrepreneurial experiences/knowledge may have impact on individual's entrepreneurial intentions. Krueger emphasized that entrepreneurial experiences may not only develop individual's entrepreneurial intentions, but can also accumulate experiences and skills for future entrepreneurial activities. However, Davidsson (1991) argued that prior entrepreneurial experiences just have slight influences on individual's knowledge of entrepreneurship and have no significant impact on their entrepreneurial attitudes. Following the discussion above, the study developed the hypothesis:

Hypothesis 2. There is a positive and significant relationship between opportunity identification and entrepreneurial preparedness of international students.

Enabling environment

The enabling environment include a set of numerous factors including economic, technological trends, socio-cultural, political/legal, demographic, global forces which have the tendency of positively or negatively influencing businesses and consequently affecting entrepreneurial intentions. The enabling environment in this study is however limited to legal framework and financial policies. These factors are the surrounding business environment and when these are made to be favorable to businesses, it is then considered as the enabling environment. According to Aidis, Estrin, and Mickiewicz (2012), the social environment factors such as legal rules and government support is an important factor influencing individual's entrepreneurship. Lee, Wong, Der Foo, and Leung (2011), asserted that the social and cultural factors could enter into the formation of entrepreneurial events by their direct influence on the formation of individual value systems. It is believed that a social system that promotes the role of entrepreneurship, more individuals will choose the path to become entrepreneurs and vice versa for a social system, that does not promote the role of entrepreneurship. Licht and Siegel (2006), also buttressed the argument that social system that encourages more innovation, risk taking, and independence brings about entrepreneurial activities than in a system with contrasting norm. However, Lüthje and Franke (2003) mentioned that there are both supporting and hindering factors among social environment factors. From the review above, the researcher established the hypothesis:

Hypothesis 3. There is positive and significant relationship between enabling environment and students' entrepreneurial preparedness.

From the review of the various literature on entrepreneurial intentions and preparedness, the researcher noticed that there limited literature on international students' entrepreneurial behavior. This has informed the decision of this paper to concentrate on international students' entrepreneurial intentions. They are students from different countries with different cultural backgrounds and orientations who are studying in China. However, this particular study does not cover all the universities, which have foreign students. This study will contribute significantly to the already literature on entrepreneurial behavior. It will pave way for more research to be conducted in this direction therefore, intends delving into foreign university students' entrepreneurial intentions focusing on entrepreneurial opportunities, enabling environment and personal traits of students. The study will add to the few studies, which used the structural equation model to measure relationships among factors of entrepreneurial intentions and entrepreneurial preparedness among university students.

Theoretical mechanism models

According to Bird (1988) entrepreneurial behavior is a type of planned behavior. Therefore, models of intentions are appropriate for explaining intentions and predicting behavior. There are several of such models including theory of reasoned action by Ajzen and Fishbein, entrepreneurial attitude orientation (Robinson et al., 1991), Sapero's Entrepreneurial event theory (SEET), the theory of planned behavior (TPB), etc. Based on the literature and analysis of the factors of entrepreneurial intentions, the paper limit itself to SEET and TPB as models for analyzing and explaining the intention factors.

Sapero's Entrepreneurial event theory (SEET)

In order to understand entrepreneurial behavior, Shapero developed the entrepreneurial event model. The Sapero's model of Entrepreneurial Event theory explains that the human behavior is guided by "inertia" by which if the individual is doing something, he continues doing it unless it is interrupted by the force outside itself Shapero and Sokol (1982). According to N. F. Krueger et al. (2000) the interruptions, which could be either positive or negative, compels the decision makers to choose the best available opportunity out of other options. The theory holds the view that a credible opportunity depends on two critical antecedents thus perceptions of desirability including both personal and social and perceptions of feasibility (personal and social). Shapero went further to include a person variable –propensity to act which is conceived as a separate predictor of action. However, this study does not include this factor in explaining intentions. It is clear from SEET that entrepreneurial intentions emanate from two the main antecedents, perceived desirability and perceived feasibility with the support from a propensity to act upon opportunities. According to Khuong and An (2016) desirability is the "desire to create a new venture," whilst feasibility is the confidence to start-up new enterprises.

The theory of planned behavior (TPB)

In the view of N. F. Krueger et al. (2000), TPB offers a closer and applicable framework that allows us to understand and predict more precisely entrepreneurial intentions by focusing on both personal and social factors. With the TPB model, the behavior of a person is immediately determined by the intention of the person to either perform the behavior or not. This intention (EI) to perform a behavior depends on three fundamental elements: attitude toward performing the behavior (EA), the subjective norm (SN), and perceived behavioral control (PC).

According to Ajzen (1991) the attitude toward performing the behaviors is the perception of an individual or their judgment of performing a particular behavior, the expected results and the impact of the outcomes in many aspects. Ajzen further concluded that individual's attitudes constitute the important affecting factors of their entrepreneurial intentions. However, Douglas and Shepherd (2000) argued that entrepreneurial decision might come from utility maximizing career choice of an individual. They developed a model in which they stressed that people will choose to become an entrepreneur if the total satisfaction they expect to derive from the entrepreneurial activities far exceed the expected utility from their best employment they can find in the market. However, Hirschi and Fischer (2013) opined that the outcome is not the sole determining factor in deciding on how to behave. Basing their argument on the Expectancy theory, which concerns the cognitive processes regarding choice and explains the processes that an individual undergoes many processes to make a choice and therefore in a given situation, people combine their needs with their beliefs and expectations of the chances of success.

N. F. Krueger and Brazeal (1994) stated that subjective norm influences individual entrepreneurial intentions and that the individual subjective norm is influenced by perceived expectation level from people who are important to him or her such as relatives, parents, friends' and colleagues to their behaviors and the obedience of the individual to their expectations. This means a person's belief about the presence of social pressure on them to perform or not perform the action in question, and the motivation to satisfy these pressures. It is also argued that the impact and predictive power of social norm might be weaker for individuals with strong desire to achieve and highly orientated to implement the behavior (Bagozzi, Davis, & Warshaw, 1992).

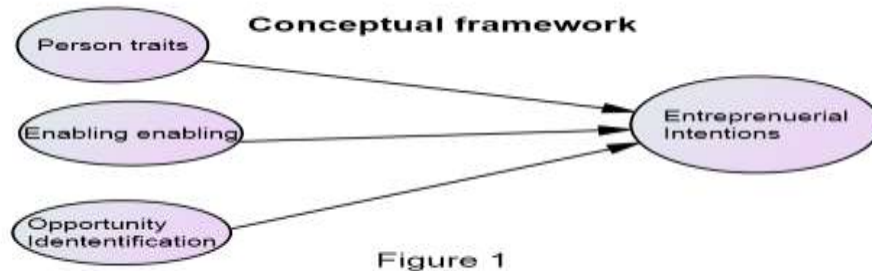
The Perceived Behavioral Control is said to influence entrepreneurial intentions through the personal belief about the possibility to conduct the planned behavior, the faculty of thoughts, physical mental, passion, finance and resources to personally control and execute the action (Bandura, 1986). Bandura considers the perceived behavioral control as perceived self-efficacy. The impact of perceived competence/perceived self-efficacy has been tested on opportunity perception and strategic risk taking in a controlled experiment and it was opined that a critical element of perceived controllability was the decision maker's sense of personal competence at the specific task (N Krueger, 1989; Norris Krueger & Dickson, 1994). The findings of their study suggested that while self-efficacy perceptions influenced risk taking, the effect was indirect. This means self-efficacy strongly influences positively and negatively opportunity perceptions and threat perceptions respectively. However, it was found that risk taking had a strong positive association with both opportunity and threat perceptions, with little direct impact of self-efficacy (N. F. Krueger et al., 2000). Some scholars suggested that prior applications of the TPB in the entrepreneurship literature account for 30–45% of the variance in intentions in explaining attitude towards performing the behavior, subjective norm, and perceived behavior control (Saeed, Yousafzai, Yani-De-Soriano, & Muffatto, 2015).

From the above discussions, the study is grounded on the theory of planned behavior. The study is centered on entrepreneurial behavior of international students in China's universities.

Case Analysis

Factors of International students' entrepreneurship (ISE)

Based on the above theories and the reviews made in the study, this research uses the successful component factors to build a working mechanism of factors of intentions of international students' entrepreneurship. Personal traits/motivation, enabling environment and opportunity identification are considered as the independent variables, which influence willingness to take risk, achievement, independence, self-efficacy, Venture support, easy business registration, supporting innovative ideas, social network and prior knowledge. The entrepreneurial intention in the working mechanism is the dependent variable which is said to have some relationship with the independent variables. These intentions factors are to be measured to establish the existence or non-existence of the relationship between the independent variables and the dependent variable (Entrepreneurial intention). The study will also establish whether such associations are significant to warrant changes or not.



Methodology and Sample

The study employed quantitative research design its data collection process. The study focuses mainly on the intention factors of international students'. The study population is made of foreign students in Jiangsu University and Jiangsu University of Science and Technology. The respondents were made of undergraduates, masters and PhD students who are pursuing various programmes and are at various levels of their studies.

Proportionate sampling was carried out to ascertain the number of students to be included in the study from each department. Simple random sampling was used to select the respondents from each department. The study administered 263 questionnaires to the selected students and 250 questionnaires were retrieved representing a valid rate of 95.06 percent. The questionnaires were designed based on the information from literature. The questionnaire was made up of questions on students' views about entrepreneurial intention and the factors affecting their intentions. The study also collected data on students' age, gender and qualification.

Variable description

The study uses a Likert-type five-point scale adopted from Keat, Selvarajah, and Meyer (2011) ranging from 1 "strongly disagree" to 5 "strongly agree" for all the constructs measuring entrepreneurial intentions. Table 1 shows the constructs and how they are measured.

Table 1. Constructs and their measures

Construct	Measurement
Personal Traits	I am willing to take risk in order to succeed (SE1)
	I do not see failure as an obstacle to taking a decision (SE2)
	My behavior determines what I am able to achieve (SE3)
	What I achieve is usually from my own efforts and personal commitment (SE4)
	I always want to have my own business kingdom (SE5)
Enabling Environment	It is easy to register a business (EA1)
	it is easy to find investors for new business (EA2)
	Strengthen the protection of intellectual property rights (EA3)
	I can easily get loan from the bank to start a business (EA4)

Opportunity Identification	My friends see entrepreneurship as a good means of succeeding in life (PK1)) and
	My family has many entrepreneurs who are successful (PK2
	My surrounding area has a lot of successful entrepreneurs (PK3)
	I have attended business summits/conferences (PK4)
	I have work experience from the private sector (PK5).
Entrepreneurial Intentions	I intend to create a business in the near future (INT1)
	I have always want to be an entrepreneur (INT2)
	I am ready to set up a business with any least opportunity (INT3).

Data Analysis

The study employed structural equation model to establish relationships between the independent constructs and the dependent construct. The data was analyzed using AMOS 20.0 software package. In order to adhere to modifications made in the indicators, the study through Amos 20.0 conducted confirmatory factor analysis.

To ensure that the data is representative of its intended purpose, reliability, validity and factor loadings for the constructs were assessed. With the exception of three of the indicators loadings falling short of the accepted factor loading of 0.70, the rest of the factor loadings of the indicators for all the constructs were above 0.70. These three items with low loadings were excluded from subsequent analysis. Two of the indicators are associated with opportunity identification whilst the other indicator relates to enabling environment. The Cronbach's alpha for the constructs ranges from 0.882 to 0.939, which are well above the 0.70 indicating a good internal reliability of the constructs indicators. The data achieved validity test as all the values of AVE exceed the 0.50 threshold as well as the model achieved all the fitness indexes. In figure 2 below, in order to resolve the issue of discriminant validity all redundant items were deleted as can be seen in the structural model. This was done by checking the modification indexes to ensure that they are all within the 15 range suggested acceptable range. Fig. 2 also shows the results of estimates with the structural model. The data is considered normally distributed since the absolute value of skewness ranges from -1.057 to 0.148 and kurtosis ranging from -1.079 to 0.171 even though absolute value of skewness of 1.0 or lower is preferred, the data met the normal distribution because its respondents exceeded 250 which caused it vary a little.

The analysis shows that all the measurement models and constructs used fit the data well thus Absolute fit index, Incremental fit index and Parsimonious fit index were all within the acceptable ranges (RMSEA= 0.058, CFI = 0.973, GFI = 0.933). This is shown in table 1. This means that the data is a true measure of the model.

Table 2. Fitness indexes

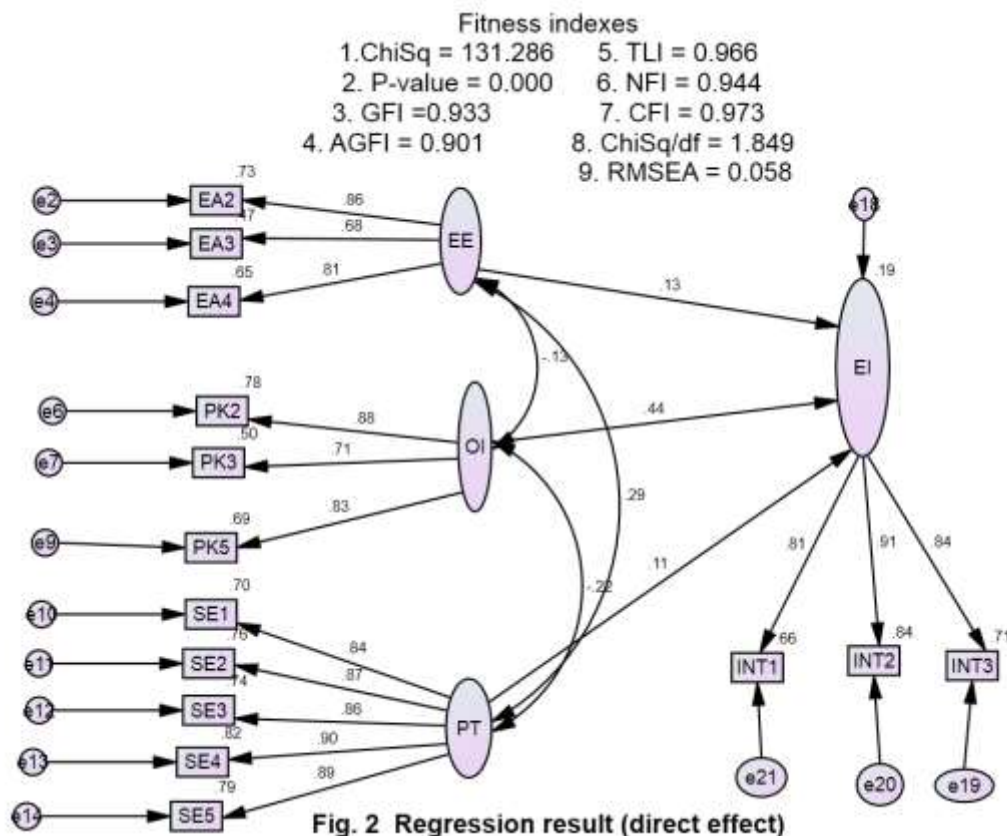
Name of category	Name of index
Absolute fit	RMSEA = 0.058
	GFI = 0.933
Incremental fit	AGFI = 0.901
	CFI = 0.973
	TLI = 0.966
	NFI = 0.944
Parsimonious fit	Chisq/df = 1.849

Table 3. Regression result (direct effect)

	Estimate	P-value	Result
Personal traits significant	0.106	0.124	Not
Opportunity identification Significant	0.441	0.000	
Enabling environment	0.126	constrained	

Testing of hypothesis

The results confirmed and supported hypothesis H2 ($\beta = 0.441$, $P < 0.01$) showing a positive and significant level whilst hypothesis H1 is positive but statistically insignificant ($\beta = 0.106$, $P > 0.05$).



DISCUSSION AND LIMITATION

The study aimed at assessing the factors affecting the intentions of international students towards entrepreneurship. The factors were categorized into personal traits, enabling environment and opportunity identification and to determine the relationships of these factors with international students' entrepreneurial intentions. This research has established that there exist relationships between entrepreneurial intentions and the three constructs (personal traits, enabling environment and opportunity identification). The findings are indicative of the three constructs having the ability to influence entrepreneurial intentions of international students.

From the findings of the study, opportunity identification has a positive and significant effect on entrepreneurial intentions of international students ($\beta = 0.441$, $P < 0.01$) as indicated in table 2. The findings of this study have supported the work of some scholars that opportunity identification has positive and significant effect on readiness towards new venture creation (A. O Seun & Kalsom, 2015a; A.O Seun & Kalsom, 2015b). The study also affirms the findings of Olugbola (2017) that opportunity identification has the potential of influencing entrepreneurial readiness of students.

Personal traits and their influences on entrepreneurial intentions or contributing to developing entrepreneurs in literature have always been affirmative. Personality traits such as , self-efficacy(Miranda et al., 2017) the need achievement (Pihie & Sani, 2009), independence (Barringer & Ireland, 2015), willingness to take risk (Douglas & Shepherd, 2000) have influences entrepreneurial intentions. The findings of the study could not establish a significant relationship between personal traits and entrepreneurial intentions. However, it is evident from

the findings that there is a positive association of personal traits on who conceives entrepreneurial intentions ($\beta = 0.106$, $P < 0.05$) as can be seen in table 2 above. This buttresses the argument that there are evidences that personal traits as factors influence entrepreneurial intentions (Ciavarella, et.al, 2004).

Enabling environment which is important factor in influencing the intentions to entrepreneur from the literature Stephen, Urbano, and van Hemmen (2005) is constrained in the study. It is clear from the literature reviewed that there is a positive relationship between enabling environment and entrepreneurial intentions of students, therefore the decision to constrain it in the analysis.

However, the study had some limitations as well. The study could not cover all universities, which have international students. The results could have been more representative of international students in China universities if all universities with international students were included. Another limitation of the study is that data was collected from departments or schools irrespective of considering whether the students were pursuing undergraduate programs, masters or PhD.

Innovation/implication

On the part of theoretical implication, this study has contributed to the existing deliberations on entrepreneurial intentions by examining personal traits, opportunity identification and enabling environment on entrepreneurial preparedness. The paper therefore contributes to how behavior influences entrepreneurial intentions of international students. The paper has contributed to the theory of planned behavior by assessing students' behavior towards entrepreneurial intention factors. The study has also introduced a new dimension by assessing international students' intention factors. This will open up the way for more research on cultural differences and policy factors in entrepreneurial intentions. By adopting the structural equation model with Amos software package in the analysis of the data and establishing relationships, the study has enriched the methodology adopted in entrepreneurial intentions research from the many usual regression analysis approach.

The study further contributes to the debate that entrepreneurs can be developed. Opportunity identification and enabling environment influence the intentions of students to entrepreneur. When policies, programs, projects and activities positively influence opportunity identification and the enabling environment, entrepreneurial intentions of students will be influenced positively. This paper will therefore help practitioners in the field of entrepreneurship to pay more attention to activities that will increase the opportunity identification potentials of students as well as offering platforms to do internships and organizing seminars

RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION

The study recommends that governments, change agents and policy makers should pay attention to activities, projects, programs and policies that will improve the capacities and abilities of students to identify entrepreneurial opportunities in their environment as well as making available business opportunities. There is the need to engage successful entrepreneurs talk to students about entrepreneurship as well as organizing entrepreneurial programs for students. Students should have some level of exposure on entrepreneurial activities.

Also, the legal and financial environments influences the intentions to entrepreneur. The study therefore recommends that there should be deliberate policies and programs to ensure that these environments are conducive to attract graduates and students to establish their own businesses.

The findings of this study is relevant to academics. The study therefore recommends that managers of academic institutions include in their curriculum practical aspects of study experience related to entrepreneurship since this will equip students towards creating their own businesses.

To sum it up, this research adopted quantitative research in the data collection process. The sampled data of 250 respondents was analyzed by using Amos 20.0 software package through structural equation model. The study established that opportunity identification had positive and significant relationship with entrepreneurial intentions of international students whilst enabling environment was constrained. Personal traits indicated a positive but insignificant relationship with entrepreneurial intentions of students. The findings of the study will help to develop more entrepreneurs who are central to job creation in economies

Future Research

This study recommends that future research should concentrate more on international students' entrepreneurial intentions especially considering their diverse cultural backgrounds and how that could influence their entrepreneurial intentions. More studies can be conducted between international students and that of Chinese students to find out if there are differences in entrepreneurial intention factors and if any, what accounts for that.

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