Ronak Mogra
INSEAD Asia Campus
1 Ayer Rajah Ave, Singapore 138676
Phone: +65 8156-3469
ronak.mogra@insead.edu

February 12, 2026

Selection Committee
NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp 2026
National Bureau of Economic Research
Cambridge, MA

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

I am writing to apply for the NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp 2026. I am currenty a PhD Student in Management (Strategy) at INSEAD, where I am being advised by Professor Michaël Bikard. Enclosed please find my application materials, which include my curriculum vitae with a complete list of PhD coursework, and a one-page research essay describing my current and future research as well as my motivation for attending the boot camp.

As requested, my recommendation letter will be submitted separately by my advisor, Michaël Bikard (michael.bikard@insead.edu).

Thank you for considering my application. I am excited about the possibility to participate in this program and look forward to hearing from you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information.

With warmest regards,



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Education

INSEAD — *Singapore & France*
Ph.D. in Management (Strategy) — *2022–Present*

Schulich School of Business, York University — *Canada*
Master of Business Administration — *2015–2017*

Vellore Institute of Technology — *India*
Bachelor of Technology (Mechanical Engineering) — *2007–2011*

Publications

[1] "Standing on the Shoulders of (Male) Giants: Gender Inequality and the Technological Impact of Scientific Ideas." [DOI]
(with Michaël Bikard and Isabel Fernandez-Mateo)
***Administrative Science Quarterly**, 2025, 70(3), 695–732.*

[2] "Balancing Allocative and Dynamic Efficiency with Redundant R&D allocation: The Role of Organizational Proximity and Centralization." [DOI]
(with Vivek Tandon, Anand Nandkumar, and Kannan Srikanth)
***Strategic Management Journal**, 1–31.*

Works In Progress

The Hidden Contributions of Women to Science.
(with Olenka Kacperczyk and Michaël Bikard)

Courses Taken

Core:

Research Methods; Microeconomic Theory A; Microeconomic Theory B; Probability & Statistics I A; Probability & Statistics I B; Social Theory; Introduction to Social Psychology

Advanced:

Econometrics A; Econometrics B; Microeconometrics; Machine Learning, Causality and Management; Foundations of Strategy and Organization; Introduction to Organization Theory; Perspectives on Innovation and Creativity; Competitive Strategy Research A; Competitive Strategy Research B; Special Topics in Strategy; Strategic Management Process A; Strategic Management Process B; Corporate Strategy B; Network Analysis B; Multinational Enterprises A; Entrepreneurship Research C; Applied Econometrics

Teaching

INSEAD:

Econometrics A (PhD) by Prof. Lin Tian — *2026 (In progress)*
– Tutorial instructor & grader

Econometrics A (PhD) by Prof. Lin Tian — *2025*
– Tutorial instructor & grader

Intro to Strategy (MBA) by Prof. Hyunjin Kim — *2023*
– Teaching assistant

Indian School of Business:

Strategic Innovation Management (PGPPro) by Prof. Anand Nandku-mar; Competitive Strategy (PGPPro) by Prof. Anand Nandkumar — *2021*
– Teaching assistant; TA of the year – PGPPro Co2021

Competitive Strategy (PGPPro) by Prof. Aks Zaheer; Competitive Strategy (PGPMAX) by Prof. Jay Anand; Competitive Strategy (PGP-MAX) by Prof. Prashant Kale — *2020*
– Teaching assistant; TA of the year – PGP Co2020, PGPMAX Co2020, PGPPro Co2020

Conferences & Seminars

Non-Market Strategy Virtual PhD Seminar Series, 2024; 3rd AI and Strategy Consortium, 2022; 2nd AI and Strategy Consortium, 2021; SMS 41st Annual Conference, 2021

Academic Experience

Indian School of Business — *India*
Research Associate — *2020–2022*
Academic Associate — *2019–2020*

Industry Experience

CIBC — *Canada*
QA Consultant — *2018–2019*
Associate, Technology Leadership Advancement Program — *2017–2018*

GTRC (Alghanim Industries) — *Kuwait*
Management Intern — *2016*

Schneider Electric — *India*
Functional Analyst — *2011–2014*

Other

Programming:
Stata, Python, R, LaTeX, SQL

Languages:
English (fluent), Hindi (fluent), Assamese (conversational)

Ronak Mogra
INSEAD

Research Essay for NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp 2026

My current research examines frictions at the science–technology interface, focusing on how institutional and organizational factors shape the diffusion and commercialization of science. My interest in these questions has been shaped by my doctoral training at INSEAD under the supervision of Michaël Bikard.

A central question motivating my research is, despite strong incentives to build on the most promising discoveries, why some ideas are adopted while others are not. The opportunity to work closely with Michaël has helped me anchor this question within the foundational economics of innovation literature and examine it in different institutional and organizational contexts. In a recent paper published in *Administrative Science Quarterly*, my co-authors and I ask this question by examining how inventor attention to science varies with scientist gender. We find that discoveries by female scientists receive systematically fewer patent citations than comparable discoveries by male scientists – a gap that persists even when the ideas themselves are essentially identical. This gap has implications not only for the scientists whose work goes underutilized, but also for the direction of innovation and aggregate social value. In a second paper in *Strategic Management Journal*, we study how multiunit pharmaceutical firms manage the tension between allocative and dynamic efficiency through redundant R&D resource allocation. Using large-scale text data to measure technological similarity, we show that intra-firm redundancy stimulates high-value innovation but also increases wastage as firms prune duplicative efforts. Though situated in different empirical contexts, these projects have deepened my interest in how ideas move across organizational and institutional boundaries and how frictions in this process shape their eventual adoption.

Looking ahead, I hope to develop a dissertation that deepens our understanding of the temporal dynamics of idea diffusion from science to technology. An emerging stream of research has documented that several scientific discoveries often remain dormant for decades — so-called "sleeping beauties" whose potential is recognized only after substantial delay — highlighting large variation in the technological careers of scientific ideas since their introduction. While prior work has provided important insights into the determinants of whether an idea is adopted and its cumulative impact, comparatively less attention has been paid to mechanisms that generate variation in the speed and trajectory of adoption. By combining rich text data from various sources with frontier computational techniques, I hope to address this question with novel measures of ideas and their diffusion that complement citation-based approaches.

As I refine my dissertation and shape my job market research, the NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp represents an extraordinary opportunity at the ideal time in my doctoral journey. Over the past few years, I have followed the Summer Institute and previous editions of the boot camp from afar – engaging deeply with reading lists and lecture materials shared online, and building my understanding of the field through the scholarship of the program's esteemed faculty. The chance to learn directly from pioneers whose work has deeply influenced my thinking would accelerate my development immensely. Given the opportunity, I hope to both deepen my theoretical foundations in the economics of innovation and engage with the methodological frontier that defines rigorous work in this field.

February 12, 2026

Dear Brett,

As an NBER (Entrepreneurship) Boot Camp (2010) alum, it is a real pleasure to offer my strongest support for **Ronak Mogra's** admission to the NBER Innovation Research Boot Camp 2026. Ronak has been my doctoral advisee since he entered the Strategy PhD program at INSEAD in 2022, and I have worked closely with him as a coauthor on two projects, one of which, examining how gender inequality shapes the diffusion of ideas between science and industry, was recently published in Administrative Science Quarterly. Over the past twelve years on the faculty, first at London Business School for five years and then at INSEAD for seven, I have advised and worked with many exceptional doctoral students. Without hesitation, I can say that Ronak is the strongest PhD student I have supervised.

Ronak's work combines rare empirical rigor with genuine intellectual curiosity and creativity. At the same time, I am convinced that he would benefit tremendously from a deeper exposure to the economics of innovation community and its toolkit, both intellectually and socially. My own training at MIT, completed in 2013 under the supervision of Scott Stern, made clear to me how formative that community can be for researchers working on innovation-related questions. While INSEAD is an excellent environment for strategy research, it does not offer the same breadth and density of innovation economics scholars that one finds in that ecosystem. For that reason, I believe the Boot Camp could be pivotal for Ronak's work.

I also have no doubt that he would contribute meaningfully to the Boot Camp itself. Ronak brings a distinctive perspective at the intersection of strategy, organizations, and innovation, paired with the technical skill, work ethics, and openness to feedback that make for an outstanding participant and colleague. I would be happy to provide any additional information about Ronak's work and potential. Please feel free to contact me by email (michael.bikard@insead.edu) or phone (+33 6 47 81 95 05).

Sincerely,
Michaël Bikard

Michaël Bikard | Associate Professor of Strategy
INSEAD | Boulevard de Constance | 77300 Fontainebleau | France
Phone +33 (0)1 60 72 93 80 | Email:
michael.bikard@insead.edu<mailto:michael.bikard@insead.edu> | Website:
michaelbikard.com<http://michaelbikard.com/>