A Scientometric Systematic Review of Entrepreneurial Wellbeing Knowledge Production

Nicolás Contreras-Barraza 1, Juan Felipe Espinosa-Cristia 1, Guido Salazar-Sepulveda 2, Alejandro Vega-Muñoz 3* and Antonio Ariza-Montes 4

1 Facultad de Economía y Negocios, Universidad Andres Bello, Viña del Mar, Chile, 2 Departamento de Ingeniería Industrial – Facultad de Ingeniería, Universidad Católica de la Santísima Concepción, Concepción, Chile, 3 Public Policy Observatory, Universidad Autónoma de Chile, Santiago, Chile, 4 Social Matters, Universidad Loyola Andalucía, Córdoba, Spain

This article presents a scientometric study regarding entrepreneurship and its relationship with wellbeing. The study presents a systematic review and measures impact and relational character to identify the relevance of countries, research organizations, and authors in the field of entrepreneurial wellbeing. The study poses the following research questions: What is the nature of the evolution of scientific knowledge in the entrepreneurial wellbeing field? What is the nature of the concentration in terms of geographical distribution and co-authorship level of knowledge production in the entrepreneurial wellbeing field? What are the knowledge trends in knowledge production for entrepreneurial wellbeing literature? The contribution of this research is two-fold. First, in terms of methodology, it contributes study into the use of a more robust approach to search for the scientometric trends about entrepreneurship wellbeing in addition to the PRISMA review tools and the PICOS eligibility criteria. Secondly, the study presents research updates in the search for results for the last 2 years of knowledge production. This upgrade is particularly important in a research field that presents exponential growth, where 2019 and 2020 presented almost double the amount of knowledge production compared to 2017 and 2018.

Keywords: entrepreneurship, satisfaction, happiness, job-satisfaction, mental-health

INTRODUCTION

In a much-cited definition of entrepreneurship, Shane and Venkataraman define the entrepreneurship research field as the “scholarly examination of how, by whom, and with what effects opportunities to create future goods and services are discovered, evaluated and exploited” (Shane and Venkataraman, 2000, p. 218). Such a definition of entrepreneurship opens up further possibilities to enlighten us on the subjective and psychological aspects of the entrepreneurship phenomenon. The entrepreneur takes risks, makes decisions, takes advantage of opportunities, and confronts uncertainty. The present study looks to deepen into the subjective and psychological aspects related to entrepreneurship in a growing field of research, that is, the study of wellbeing and entrepreneurship. A research study that investigates the relationship between offerings of recent literature and wellbeing and entrepreneurship could serve to clarify work-life interference aspects of those that embrace entrepreneurial activities.
Wellbeing is a relevant concept for those who produce arrangements to do with work and the economy. For example, The International Labor Organization (ILO) states that wellbeing at the workplace concerns all aspects of professional life. In this sense, the quality and safety of the physical climate, the socio-emotional climate, and work organization are of great importance (International Labor Organization, 2019). One of the cornerstones of professional life is entrepreneurship. Wellbeing at the workplace has been widely studied among employees but much less so in entrepreneurs. The focus on wellbeing has moved to the forefront of scholarly research on entrepreneurship (Shir et al., 2019). In consequence, entrepreneurial wellbeing rapidly becomes a form of access to research job and life satisfaction plus other socio-emotional professional life phenomena.

Following Sánchez-García et al. (2018), the present study’s purpose is to organize the growing line of research that connects entrepreneurship and wellbeing, structuring a scientometric analysis of this novel stream of research. The present article contributes by focusing the inquiry on the use of the scientific activity itself and the application of scientometric techniques to measure the impact and relational character to make relevant the countries, research organizations, and authors in the field of entrepreneurial wellbeing. To update some of the results of Sánchez-García et al., this article aims to produce a grounded answer on the subjects of the concentration, actual trends, and nature of the evolution of scientific knowledge of entrepreneurial wellbeing. Following this line of inquiry, the study positions the following research questions, according to the PICOS tool (Methley et al., 2014):

- What is the nature of the evolution of scientific knowledge in the entrepreneurial wellbeing field?
- What is the nature of the concentration in terms of geographical distribution and co-authorship level of knowledge production in the entrepreneurial wellbeing field?
- What are the knowledge trends in knowledge production for entrepreneurial wellbeing literature?

To answer those research questions, authors use a scientometric analytic methodology. According to Kullenberg and Kasperowski (2016), scientometrics meta-analysis examines the production of knowledge, its spatiality, and the relationship between the network of global actors (Moravcsik, 1985; Frenken et al., 2009; Albort-Morant et al., 2017; Vega-Muñoz and Salinas-Galindo, 2017; Mikhaylov et al., 2020). This study focuses on establishing levels of spatial, organizational, and thematic co-authorship using VOSviewer for entrepreneurial wellbeing knowledge production (Van Eck and Waltman, 2010; Köseoglu et al., 2018; Lojo et al., 2019; González-Serrano et al., 2020; Vega-Muñoz et al., 2020). Scientometrics is a study methodology within entrepreneurship studies and has been used previously by Shane and Venkataraman (2000). Busenitz et al. (2003), Cornelius et al. (2006), Qian (2014), Chandra (2018), Sassmannshausen and Volkmann (2018), Duran-Sanchez et al. (2019), Ferreira et al. (2019), and Kang et al. (2019).

This scientometric systematic review contributes to entrepreneurial wellbeing understanding using a dataset built from a JCR-WoS journal collection, as JCR-WoS journals have been defined as the collection with the most significant impact worldwide (Carabantes-Alarcón and Alou-Cervera, 2019; Serrano et al., 2019). Such selection leads to an answer about the concentration, actual trends, and nature of the evolution of scientific knowledge of entrepreneurial wellbeing.

The paper proceeds as follows. First, the study offers a background on entrepreneurship and wellbeing. This background intends to offer a short literature review that brings context to the scientometrics analysis of the field. Later, the article presents the scientometrics methodology and then shows results; later, a discussion for entrepreneurial wellbeing looks at a Scientometric Systematic Review and also discusses the concluding remarks and limitations of this study.

**RESEARCH BACKGROUND**

Since the classification of Cornelius et al. (2006), entrepreneurship studies have been concentrated on three lines of research: business management, business history, and economic policy. This article is a systematic review of a business management line but also has a focus on individuals, particularly studying the individual entrepreneur and their behavior, mental processes, satisfaction, mental health, and stress among other personal issues. That is why, in this section, the article elaborates on an updated review of the literature that intends to contextualize the scientometric analysis of wellbeing and entrepreneurship. Firstly, the authors develop the concept of job satisfaction and wellbeing. Later, the text offers an actual view of the relationship between entrepreneurship and self-efficacy. Afterward, the study presents relations between entrepreneurship and health. Then, the text developed de relationship between entrepreneurship and happiness. Finally, the authors set up a revision of literature about entrepreneurship and life satisfaction. But first, this study confronts the more general inquiry about the relationship between wellbeing and then wellbeing and entrepreneurship.

As Wiklund et al. (2019) explain in their review about wellbeing and entrepreneurship literature, it is not easy to define and measure wellbeing. wellbeing measures and studies can lead to a better understanding of people’s quality of life (Stiglitz et al., 2009). The need to understand more about individuals’ quality of life had triggered the development of a variety of measurement instruments. For example, Linton et al. (2016) describe 99 different measures for estimating wellbeing. These authors visualize that measures of wellbeing present a significant range that goes from subjective and psychological measures through to objective physical health measurements.

Wellbeing is a broad construct that is both complex and multidimensional (Shir et al., 2019). Wellbeing is a function of subjective and objective influences in people’s life experience (Wiklund et al., 2019). Theoretically and empirically, wellbeing offers a variety of avenues regarding their emphasis on external and internal individual conditions.