In a capitalist mixed economy, it is said that the private sector is the engine of growth. What that means is that entrepreneurship is the key to the wealth of nations, families, and individuals. Even in advanced economies, small scale family business startups make significant contribution to national economies, especially in employment generation not to mention the fact that many giant corporations started that way. Therefore, it was a great opportunity for us at the Pentecost University College (PUC), Accra, Ghana, to learn the experience of family business startups and entrepreneurship in the United States of America through this collaborative study with the faculty of Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU).

In the case of Ghana, small-scale enterprises form the bulk of the economy, and the nation’s future strategically hangs on growing family business startups and entrepreneurship. Headed by one of the leading entrepreneurs in Ghana, Dr. Michael Agyekum, Chairman of our University Council, we are privileged to be partners with SVSU in undertaking a joint research project which provides a greater understanding of factors associated with entrepreneurship in developed and developing contexts. The SVSU and PUC collaboration started with a modest signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between our two institutions in 2011. It has resulted in the publication of this book and faculty and student exchanges between the two institutions. It is my desire to see greater outcomes from the relationship between our sister institutions.

Peter Ohene Kyei
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