

After studying economics at ITAM (Mexico City) and Barcelona, Mr. Bátiz was awarded his Ph.D. in Business Administration at Manchester University. He then had short stay at the School of Management of the Queen's University of Belfast before taking full time responsibilities as Lecturer in Management at the Open Business School (UK). He has been Visiting Professor at the University of Kassel (Germany), Instituto Superior de Gestão Bancaria (Portugal) and Centre for Banking and Finance (Sweden).

Prior to university life he worked as trader and research analyst in capital and derivatives markets in both the US and Mexico. Since 1991 he has been active in teaching and researching financial markets and financial institutions.

His research interests revolve around the development and application of market contestability theory and resource-based competition in strategic management. These interests also include bank corporate strategy, the theory of the firm and the determinants of competition in financial markets. He has published in North America and Europe through practitioner oriented and academic journals, sits on the editorial board of traditional and electronic refereed journals for academics in management, economic history and industrial economics, and is a regular participant at national and international conferences.

Participation in external research funds include acting as research assistant to "Outsourcing the Finance Function", a project financed through a £30,000 sterling grant of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales. This project was carried out under the leadership of Prof. Pete Barrar and Prof. Douglas Wood at Manchester Business School (June-August, 1996). Also, as co-author of the distance leaning text called "An Introduction to International Banking and Trade Finance". This text was part of a research project financed through a £60,000 sterling grant of the European Union and the Hungarian Institute of Bankers and managed by Prof. Douglas Wood (June-September, 1995).

As mid-term goal, Mr. Batiz is working on a joint project with OU colleagues, Merryll Lynch (Europe) and AITEG to establish whether the pace and direction of mergers and acquisitions (M&As), points towards either globalization or integration as the main process that drives European international companies in selected industries (banking, ethical pharmaceuticals [including bio-technology] and internet providers). It is to be expected that a successful research project will be a platform to build an international research group and a source of external funding.