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CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

5TH International Symposium on Cross Sector Social Interactions

Symposium: April 18 – 19, 2016

Doctoral workshop: April 17, 2016

Toronto, Canada

www.cssi2016.com

Cross-sector partnerships for systemic change: Rethinking goals, governance, and organizational forms

Submission deadline: September 30, 2015

The biennial symposium series on Cross Sector Social Interactions (CSSI) brings together scholars and practitioners interested in the intersection of business, government and civil society to share insights from research, teaching and practice. The 5th International Symposium on Cross- Sector Social Interactions will take stock of advances in CSSI since the previous symposium in 2014, and will engage in professional development workshops, expert panels, paper presentations, and keynote talks to develop new knowledge, concepts, tools and methods.

The theme of the 2016 symposium, and the subsequent special symposium issue in the *Journal of Business Ethics*, will be on **cross-sector partnerships for systemic change**. Participants will therefore be able to explore the potential and limits of cross-sector collaboration for forging deep-level change in social, economic and environmental systems. They will also have multiple opportunities to get expert feedback on their work-in-progress, to get inspiration for new projects and practices, and to network with fellow scholars and practitioners from across different sectors and disciplines.

The event is being organized over four days. April 17th is the doctoral workshop, April 18th the professional development workshops, April 19th the paper sessions, and April 20th an optional field trip. Throughout there will also be keynote speakers, panel discussions, an award ceremony and networking opportunities.

Confirmed keynote speakers include the following. More featured speakers will be announced in due course.

- Prof. Ben Cashore, Yale University
- Prof. Barbara Gray, Pennsylvania State University
- Prof. Henry Mintzberg, McGill University

Conference scope and theme

Cross sector social interactions (CSSI) is an umbrella term that includes topics such as cross-sector social partnerships (Selsky & Parker, 2005), collaborative planning (Koontz & Newig, 2014), and collaborative governance (Huxham, Vangen, Huxham, & Eden, 2000). Interactions between the private, public and civil society sectors can happen within one hybrid organization form (Jay, 2013), through stakeholder engagement (Bowen et al., 2010), or through formal partnerships (Clarke & Fuller, 2010). The interactions may be collaborative or conflictual (Gray, 1989; Yaziji & Doh, 2009).

Cross-sector partnerships are increasingly being created to address complex social projects that are too large for one organization to tackle (Seitanidi & Crane, 2014). Yet, how effective are they for achieving systemic change? Extant research, for example, has explored the ways in which market-based cross-sector initiatives can enhance the governance of social and environmental problems (Cashore et al., 2004; Auld et al., 2015). Critics, however, point to the corporatization of activism (Dauvergne & LeBaron, 2014), the dominance of the private sector, and the fundamental need to rebalance society (Mintzberg, 2015).

The theme of this symposium is on the role of cross-sector collaboration in driving (or preventing) more fundamental systemic change, thus getting to the heart of the current challenges confronting capitalism, the corporate form, governance and the achievement of systemic outcomes. The conference will ask whether and how the goals of partnerships should be reconsidered to focus on broader systemic change; what forms of new societal governance can or should partnerships deliver; and what are the implications of new organizational forms that are emerging to institutionalize cross-sector thinking and acting in a more systemic way. We therefore invite submissions to the conference focusing on the following questions:

Rethinking partnership goals. Considering partnerships in terms of systemic change requires new thinking about appropriate goals. Indicative questions that might be addressed include:

- What goals are best addressed through cross-sector partnerships and what goals are precluded?
- How can or should partnerships assess progress towards more systemic outcomes?
- How should partnership goals be adjusted to have a more systemic impact?

Rethinking governance. Cross-sector partnerships play a critical, but contested, role in broader systemic changes towards more voluntary-based private and civil regulation. This suggests a number of questions, such as:

- What forms of societal governance can (or should) be delivered through partnerships?
- How effective are collaborative governance mechanisms, when considering systemic change?
- How do cross-sector partnerships intersect with other forms of ‘hard’ and ‘soft’ regulation, and with broader social movements to deliver or prevent systemic change?

Rethinking organizational forms. Cross-sector partnerships raise a host of organizational challenges that prompt new questions about the types of organizational forms necessary to achieve systemic change. Illustrative questions on this theme include:

- What new organizational hybrid forms are being used to institutionalize cross-sector logics and practices, and how effective are they in doing so?
- Which cross-sector organizational forms are best designed for dealing with power, conflict and

collaboration across sectors?

- How are cross-sector partnerships re-shaping existing organizational forms in each of the sectors, and what is the likely impact of these shifts in terms of systemic change?

We particularly welcome submissions that address these questions, but also welcome submissions related to cross-sector social interactions more generally. This includes papers on:

- Cross-sector social partnerships
- Collaborative strategic management
- Collaborative governance
- Collaborative planning
- Co-management of natural resources
- Public-private partnerships
- Partnerships for development
- Community-research alliances
- Cross-sector alliances
- Hybrid organizations
- Social innovation
- Business-society interactions
- Stakeholder conflicts
- Stakeholder engagement
- Cross-sector leadership
- Or any other sector-blending topic that has a social purpose

Submission Details

Two type of submission are invited:

- 1) **Extended abstract.** These should be 600-1000 words in length and will be a summary of a specific research project or paper, either completed or work-in-progress. The abstract should provide a brief overview of the research, including introduction, literature review, research questions, methodology, findings, conclusions, and selected references.
- 2) **Panel proposal.** These should be 600-1000 words in length and will be an outline of a full panel session including 3 or 4 speakers and a chair/moderator. Panelists can be scholars and/or practitioners and can present a specific paper or engage in a structured, moderated conversation. The proposal should include a description of the aims and rationale for the panel, the names of all panelists, the titles and a brief description of each panelist's talk or paper, and selected references. All panelists should have confirmed their intention to attend the conference prior to submission of the proposal.

Submissions should be in Word, using 12pt font with double line spacing and 1" margins. Please include a title page (not included in word count). All submissions should be made through the conference website at: www.cssi2016.com

As in previous years, papers submitted to the Symposium will be eligible for the ***Routledge Best Paper Award in Social Partnership***, comprising a certificate to the recipient, a voucher for £100 books published by Taylor & Francis Group, and a one-year subscription to *Academy of Management Annals*. To be eligible for the best paper award, authors will need to submit a full paper based on their abstract by January 31, 2016.

The best symposium papers will also be invited to submit for a special symposium issue in the ***Journal of Business Ethics*** on the conference theme that will be edited by Andrew Crane and Amelia Clarke. To assist authors in preparing their work for the JBE special symposium issue, as well as for authors aiming

to submit their work to other journals, we will be holding a *manuscript development workshop* at the conference where interested authors can receive feedback on their work in progress from senior scholars and journal editors. To participate in the manuscript development workshop authors will need to submit a full paper based on their abstract by January 31, 2016.

IMPORTANT DATES

September 30, 2015	Submission of abstracts and panel proposals (600-1,000 words for both), to be submitted through the conference website: www.cssi2016.com
November 30, 2015	Selection of abstracts completed and authors notified. Registration opens.
December 1, 2015	Deadline for applications for doctoral workshop
January 31, 2016	Deadline for full papers (optional) for authors who would like to be considered for the Routledge Best Paper Award and/or the manuscript development workshop
January 31, 2016	Early bird registration deadline
April 17, 2016	Doctoral workshop, Toronto, Canada
April 18-19, 2016	Main CSSI 2016 conference, Toronto, Canada
April 20, 2016	Optional CSSI field trip to Niagara Falls and Niagara Region, Ontario, Canada
July 31, 2016	Submission of full papers to be considered for the special symposium issue of the <i>Journal of Business Ethics</i>

Symposium co-chairs and organizers

- Dr. Andrew Crane – Director, Centre of Excellence in Responsible Business; and George R. Gardiner Professor of Business Ethics, Schulich School of Business, York University
- Dr. Amelia Clarke – Director, Master of Environment and Business program; and Associate Professor, School of Environment, Enterprise and Development, University of Waterloo

Doctoral workshop co-chairs and organizers

- Dr. Oana Branzei, Associate Professor; and Strategy Director, Sustainability Certificate Program, Richard Ivey School of Business, Western University
- Dr. Jonathan Doh, Herbert G. Rammrath Endowed Chair in International Business; Faculty Director, Center for Global Leadership; and Professor, Management & Operations, School of Business, Villanova University

Scientific committee

- Dr. James Austin, Eliot I. Snider and Family Professor of Business Administration, Emeritus, Harvard Business School, Harvard University
- Dr. Esben Rahbek Gjerdrum Pedersen, Professor; and Director of Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility, Copenhagen Business School
- Dr. Carlos Rufin, Associate Professor of International Business; and Chair, Strategy & International Business Department, Sawyer Business School, Suffolk University
- Dr. M. May Seitanidi – CSSI Symposia Series Co-coordinator; and Senior Lecturer in Strategy, Kent

Business School, University of Kent

- Dr. Rob Van Tulder, Professor of International Business-Society Management, Department of Business-Society Management, Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Dr. Sandra Waddock, Galligan Chair of Strategy; Carroll School Scholar of Corporate Responsibility; and Professor of Management, Carroll School of Management, Boston College

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