



SIG 01 - B4S - Business for Society

With our theme **Exploring the Future of Management: Facts, Fashion and Fado**, we invite you to participate in the debate about how to explore the future of management. We look forward to receiving your submissions.

ST01_01/ST02_01 - Innovations in corporate governance: law, management and society (co-sponsored by Business for Society SIG-01 and Corporate Governance SIG-02)

Proponents:

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Short description:

Contemporary social and environmental challenges call for a rethinking of corporate governance. This track discusses how research in management can contribute to integrate societal issues and societal interests into corporate governance. We encourage work that examines our current theories of the corporation, revisits the history and the legal constitution of the corporation, extends our knowledge on alternative and emergent forms of business companies, and suggests new foundations for future governance.

Long description:

In the field of management research, there is a growing awareness of both the need and the opportunities to rethink business corporations and their governance in line with societal and sustainability challenges. While management scholars increasingly question the capacity of business companies to take into account the interests and risks of their stakeholders within existing legal and governance models, entrepreneurs are developing and adopting new business practices and business forms that embrace a broader agenda: e.g. mission and purpose enhancement, social enterprise, hybrid organizations, Benefit Corporations, impact investing, and shareholder engagement.

These contemporary movements challenge the traditional business forms and call for a rethinking of corporate models. This track will welcome management research that examines our current theories of the corporation, extends our knowledge on alternative and emergent form of business organizations. It will investigate how innovative theories of business organizations, or a comprehensive understanding of the role of management and managerial discretion can suggest new foundations for governance that takes account of



stakeholder, societal and sustainability risks and interests. In order to open avenues for research at the interplay between law and management, the track will also welcome research that analyzes the legal foundations of the firm, their adequacy with contemporary issues, and their possible reforms.

The track will be organized around contributions focusing on these lines of research:

- History of business forms, governance doctrines and institutional frameworks;
- Cases and empirical evidence on alternative forms of business organizations (social enterprise, hybrid organizations, cooperatives, mission-driven companies);
- The role and impact of corporate, social and financial law, as well as the need and conditions for reforms;
- Emerging forms of collaboration between public and private organizations and between public or private organizations and social enterprises;
- Alternatives models of the firm and its governance, going beyond the splitting between for-profit and non-for-profit organizations, or meeting democratic or sustainable imperatives.

The overall aim of this track is to allow for a broad discussion on models and theories that allow to rethink the theory and practice of corporate governance and to explore alternatives for the future.

Keywords:

Corporate governance
Management
Law
innovation
Theory of the corporation

Publication Outlet:

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