

Call for Contributions: Business & Society Research Seminar 2019

Corporate Social Responsibility, Grand Challenges and Sustainability: The Business of Society?!

June 19th-21st, 2019 @ Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU Amsterdam), School of Business & Economics,
Amsterdam, Netherlands

Conference website: abri.vu.nl/bsseminar2019

VU Amsterdam is hosting the 9th edition of the Business & Society Research Seminar for PhD students and emerging scholars.

- Are you a PhD candidate or an emerging scholar conducting research on Business and Society relationships, Sustainable Business, Corporate Social Responsibility, Sustainable Development Goals, Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship or a related topic?
- Do you want to thoroughly discuss one of your research papers or your PhD project with leading scholars in the field to enhance your ability to write and review scholarly publications?
- Do you want to meet other emerging scholars and experienced academics in the field to develop your academic network?

Then we encourage you to submit your contribution!

OBJECTIVES OF THE SEMINAR

The objective of this two-and-a-half-day “Business and Society Research Seminar” is to bring together doctoral students, emerging scholars, and more experienced academics to present and discuss their research projects and receive feedback in a stimulating, developmental and friendly atmosphere. We will explore commonalities as well as differences in each other’s research approaches and themes in an inspiring, sociable, and convivial academic setting. Similarly to previous editions of the seminar, this year’s event will be composed of plenary, thematic paper discussion sessions, and workshop sessions dedicated to research methodology and publication strategy. Furthermore, we will put an emphasis on collaboration and dialogue with practitioners. All sessions will involve fellow PhD students, emerging scholars, and more experienced researchers.

ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS

The 2019 edition of the Business & Society seminar will be held in Amsterdam, hosted by VU University and the Amsterdam Business Research Institute (ABRI; www.abri.vu.nl). The seminar is financially supported by the Society for the Advancement of Management Studies (SAMS), the Louvain CSR Network of the LouRIM Louvain Research Institute in Management and Organizations (UCLouvain, Belgium), University of Namur (Belgium), the Chair in CSR at Audencia Business School (France), IESEG Center for Organizational

Responsibility (ICOR) at IÉSEG School of Management (France), ICHEC Brussels Management School (Belgium) and the Chair in CSR at University of Mannheim (Germany).

GENERAL THEME OF THE 2019 EDITION

“Corporate Social Responsibility, Grand Challenges and Sustainability: The Business of Society?!”

Global societal and environmental problems like climate change, inequality, and mass-migration all call for attention. Given the increasing power of business in a globalized world and the resulting societal impacts which include both positive social, environmental, and political engagement as well as negative externalities, there is an urgent need to scrutinize the relationship between business and society. How can businesses and societal stakeholders address those pressing challenges and develop solutions for more inclusive development? Moreover, how do current societal transformations like digitalization, raising nationalism around the globe, lack of faith in democracy and science influence the relationship between business and society? This year’s seminar will have a specific focus on novel approaches across the CSR, sustainability, and social innovation agenda in order to understand how emerging and mature issues might redefine responsibilities, roles and opportunities of both business and society.

KEYNOTES



Academic keynote: The conference’s academic keynote will be given by **Professor Mette Morsing**, who holds the Mistra Chair of Sustainable Markets at the Stockholm School of Economics. She has been a professor at Copenhagen Business School (CBS) since 2007, where she was Founding Director of the CBS Center for Corporate Social Responsibility for 10 years. She also served as an Academic Director of the CBS Sustainability Platform. Her research work is positioned in research traditions of governance, management scholarship and communication/media studies in the context of CSR and sustainability, drawing from research traditions of sociology, communication studies and management scholarship as well as other areas.



Practitioner keynote: The conference’s practitioner keynote will be given by a representative of the **Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)**, headquartered in Amsterdam. GRI is an independent international organization that has pioneered sustainability reporting since 1997. It’s mission is to help businesses and governments worldwide understand and communicate their impact on critical sustainability issues such as climate change, human rights, governance and social well-being. This enables real action to create social, environmental and economic benefits for everyone. The GRI Sustainability Reporting Standards are developed through multi-stakeholder contributions and rooted in the public interest.

OPEN CALL FOR PAPERS AND FURTHER RESEARCH THEMES

Beyond the main theme of this year’s seminar and considering the interdisciplinary orientation of the event, we encourage submissions by scholars sharing a common interest for and working on topics related to business and society relationships, sustainable business, corporate social responsibility, the UN Sustainable Development Goals and social innovation and originating from various organization-related

research fields including business ethics and philosophy, management and organization studies, strategy, marketing, accounting, finance, and sociology. We also encourage submissions drawing on a diverse array of methodologies, including qualitative, quantitative and conceptual work.

APPLICATIONS AND DEADLINES

To present your work at the event, please submit a long abstract (up to 10 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12) or a full paper (maximum 40 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12) on your research project related to business and society relationships or another topic as described above.

Submission Deadline: 10th February, 2019. Submissions will undergo a double blind-review process. Notification of acceptance will be sent in early April 2019. Please submit your paper using the following link via the conference website: <https://www.abri.vu.nl/en/events/business-and-society/call-for-papers/index.aspx>

Registration: Shortly after acceptance notifications in April 2019, authors of accepted papers will receive an online registration link. The conference program and other details will also be released on the conference website in April 2019.

Please note that the Business & Society research seminar is designed to host around 30 paper presentations (around 85 participants including scientific and organizing committees) to ensure high quality interaction. There are limited possibilities to attend without presenting a paper. If you wish to participate without an accepted paper, please email us a separate motivation letter. Please acknowledge that due to space and budget constraints preference is given to those presenting a paper.

Participation, including the conference dinner on June 20th, is free of charge, but participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses.

PRACTICAL DETAILS

The 2019 seminar will take place at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU Amsterdam) in the VU main building (How to get there: <https://www.vu.nl/en/about-vu-amsterdam/contact-info-and-route/route-description/index.aspx>). For any question, please contact us at bss.sbe@vu.nl
For more information, please visit the conference website: abri.vu.nl/bseminar2019

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

More than 25 experienced researchers in the field are invited to attend the seminar. Next to the organizing committee, confirmed guests include Frank Boons, Arno Kourula, Frank den Hond, Joep Cornelissen, Panikos Georgallis, Christine Moser, Michelle Westermann-Behaylo, and many others...

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- Valérie Swaen, UCLouvain, LouRIM (Louvain Research Institute in Management and Organizations), Belgium & IÉSEG School of Management, France
- Frank de Bakker and François Maon, IÉSEG School of Management, France
- Céline Louche, Audencia Business School, France
- Christel Dumas, ICHEC Brussels Management School, Belgium
- Annick Castiaux and Sophie Pondeville, University of Namur, Belgium
- Laura Marie Edinger-Schons, Chair of CSR, University of Mannheim Business School
- Christopher Wickert and Koen van Bommel, VU Amsterdam