

Dear Friends,

We hope you all are well and safe!

Here is the **Anti-poverty Working Group Update October 2021**, which once again confirms the agility of our WG members and our WG as a whole in these challenging times.

8th Responsible Management Education Research Conference, Suzhou, China, 19-21 October

The [8th Responsible Management Research Conference](#) on, *Poverty and Prosperity: Implications for Advancing the SDGs and Responsible Management Education in a Post-Pandemic World*, was a global gathering of scholars from 20 countries on six continents. Delegates represented institutions from China, Colombia, France, Germany, India, Mexico, the United States, the United Kingdom just to name a few.

Member's participating. Our WG, as per tradition, was very well represented, acting as presenters, track and session chairs, session moderators and/or speakers (including tracks and sessions not hosted by our WG). WG members that contributed to the conference's success included: **Ranjit Voola** (Australia), **Norman Arrudo-Neto and Rodrigo Titon** (Brazil), **Anastasiya Marcheva** (Bulgaria), **Xuanwei Cao** (China), **Shirley Yeung** (China, Hong Kong), **Arvind Ashta** (France), **Alexander Herzner** and **Laxmi Remer** (Germany), **Shiv Tripathi** (India), **Consuelo Garcia de la Torre** (Mexico), **Milenko Gudić** (Serbia), **Geri Mason** and **Al Rosenbloom** (USA).

Conference Highlights. Several plenary sessions were especially relevant to WG interests:

- **Xuanwei Chao** and colleagues presented findings of the first-ever research on Chinese faculty and student perceptions of the legitimacy of the issue of poverty and the SDGs in the context of Chinese and global management education.
- **Stuart Hart** challenged all delegates to rethink the purposes of management education and the purposes of the economy, in which alleviating poverty must be considered.
- **Hualiang Lu** presented ideas on the need for cross-collaboration of Chinese schools to achieve the goals of responsible management.
- **Violeta Bulc** outlined a vision for ecocivilization in which prosperity includes a significant reduction in poverty.
- **Jiefang Yi** presented a fascinating local project Green Life – Planting trees in desert of China.

A number of PRME cross-working group tracks continued to illustrate both the partnership our WG has with other PRME WGs and the relevance of those WGs to support responsible management education. **Business for Peace Working Group, Sustainability Mindset Working Group, Humanistic Management Working Group** and **Climate Change Working Group** were all well-represented at the conference.

The WG provided leadership for and moderated a plenary **conference panel** on *What have we learnt through the pandemic period: Fostering the impact-creating communication and collaboration within and among international RME associations*. The panel included **Mathew Woods** (EFMD), **Dan LeClair** (GBSN), **John North** (GRLI), **Florencia Librizzi** (HESI), and **Milenko Gudić** (PRME Anti-poverty WG), all of whom gave spirited ideas on how to move forward through participation in association activities.

9th Responsible Management Education Research Conference Announced

As is the tradition at RMER conferences, the final session included announcing where the next RMER Conference will be held. **MCI: The Entrepreneurial School**®, Innsbruck, Austria, will host the 9th RMER conference sometime in late September, 2022. More details coming shortly.

News from our Members, Friends and Partners

- Our WG member from India, **Divya Singhal**, is sharing with us the third issue of the [SDG Samvaad](#) newsletter of the Centre for Social Sensitivity and Action (CSSA) at the Goa Institute of Management. Focused on SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production, the issue was [launched](#) on 19 September by Director - Prof. Ajit Parulekar as part of UN SDG Global Action Week. On this occasion, our WG member from Hong Kong, **Shirley Yeung**, Asia Ambassador, SDSN-Kenya, and Head of Business School, Gratia Christian College, Hong Kong was also present. For more information about the CSSA activities, Divya is sharing the CSSA 20-21 [annual report](#).
- Al Rosenbloom published a commentary on "[Marketing Scholarship and the Sustainable Development Goals: Thoughts on Moving Forward](#)," in special issue of the *Australasian Marketing Journal* on **Re-imagining Marketing Scholarship in the era of the UN Sustainable Development Goals** in which Ranjit Voola is a special issue editor.
- Our WG member **Wael Helal** (Egypt) informs on launching his startup called "Pre-Preneurs." You are invited to watch the introduction to the Pre-Preneurs at: <https://youtu.be/oZtgCI3Mer4>
- Our WG member **Christina Bache**, Chair of the PRME Working Group on Business for Peace, is inviting us to the B4P WG [webinar](#) on *Strengthening the nexus of business and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda*. The webinar, to be held on 16 November at 10 a.m. (EST), will draw on conclusions as outlined in the [Women, Peace and Security: Guidance for Business](#), a recent publication of the UN Global Compact Network UK.
- Our WG member **Ali Awni** (Egypt), Director, The John D. Gerhart Center for Philanthropy, Civic Engagement & Responsible Business, The School of Business at The American University of Cairo (AUC), is reminding us that we can [register](#) for the upcoming webinar (3 November), [The Aftermath of the COVID 19: The New Social Impact Ecosystem](#), which will touch on the history of sustainability reporting, the role of investors in sustainability, the first steps needed towards convergence and harmonization by NGOs, and the current state of play by governments.
- Our WG member **Shirley Yeung** (Hong Kong) is inviting us to [The Crossroads of Education & Future of Work in the Post-Pandemic Era](#), part of the *Futures of Education Forum*, 10 November
- Our WG member **Kleio Akrivou**, Director, Centre for Business Ethics and Sustainability, Henley Business School, University of Reading, UK, presented a case study on business school's practices in a special workshop on Renewing business school's role: Supporting human flourishing, enabling mental health, well-being and building resilience, which was held at the EFMD Annual Conference Not Business as Usual (18-20 October). The workshop was moderated by Matthew Wood, Director of Operations, EFMD.
- Our friend, **Matthew Wood** is sharing with us the special issue of the [15th Anniversary Issue](#) of the EFMD Global Focus.
- Our friend **Vignia Lasio** (Ecuador) is sharing with us that the 10th [PRME Regional Chapter LAC Annual Meeting](#) will take place on 9-11 November. Among the speakers is also our WG member **Urs Jaeger** from INCAE (Costa Rica)

Looking forward to our future communication, collaboration and meetings,

With best wishes,

Al Rosenbloom and Milenko Gudić

P.S. Attached please find the latest updated **WG membership list**, which includes **228** members from **181** institutions in **62** countries!