

Dear Friends,

Hope you are fine and safe at a time when new challenges are additionally increasing the complexities, uncertainties and vulnerability in the world where we live. This reminds us on the need for responsible leadership and, once again, on the role that responsible management education could and should play in this respect.

Our **WG Update February 2022** is primarily focused on the two major projects that are in front of us in the coming months.

IN MEMORIAM: Consuelo Adelaida García de la Torre

It is with sadness that we learned of our dear colleague Consuelo Adelaida Garcia de la Torre's passing away on 29 January. Consuelo was one of the early pioneers and champions of PRME. A long time WG member, Consuelo also served as the Chair of the PRME Regional Chapter LAC (2014-2015), the focal point of Mexico in PRME and the Tec de Monterrey-EGADE Business School's representative at UN Global Compact, and a member of the PRME Advisory Committee (2018-2020). Following her exceptional contribution to the noble mission of responsible management education, Consuelo received the PRME Pioneer Award in 2017, as well as Flourish Prizes (2018 and 2019) for her participation in the AIM2Forish initiative. Consuelo's great intellectual capacity, coupled with the highest personal integrity and ethical standards, made her an outstanding pillar for a number of important projects of our Working Group, including its global surveys, books, RMER and other international conferences that our WG initiated and/or participated. Her warmth, compassion, welcoming smile and gentleness were hallmarks that made so many of us consider her a friend. While feeling her passing away as a great loss, we all will keep Consuelo in our hearts and memories and build on her legacy.



9th Responsible Management Education Research Conference, 27-29 September, Innsbruck, Austria

In response to the general theme of the 9th RME Research Conference [*Societal Impact through Entrepreneurship & Innovation: Responsible Leadership Education for the Change Makers of Tomorrow*](#), and its Call for Track Proposals, our WG has submitted a **poverty-related conference track** proposal that – as per tradition - consists of two inter-related sub-tracks, one focused on **research**, and the other centered on **learning and teaching**

- **Action and Impact-Oriented Research on Societal Impact and Poverty Alleviation through Entrepreneurship and Innovation**

This sub-track will focus on two issues: (1) new research that provides a better understanding of how entrepreneurship and innovation can support poverty alleviation and the advancement of related SDGs; and (2) research that explores managerial and leadership capabilities as well as the mindset that facilitates entrepreneurship for poverty alleviation. We also encourage research that provides guidance for responsible management education and leadership by focusing on the role, dynamics, and impact of how business and non-business leaders recognize the potential of entrepreneurship and innovation for concurrently increasing societal impact,

reducing poverty and advancing other related SDGs. Conceptual or empirical research papers, along with works in progress and/or proposals for innovative research designs that lead to new insights or challenge established frameworks about responsible management and poverty, are also welcome for this sub-track.

- **Innovative Teaching and Learning Strategies that Develop Leadership Capabilities for Enhancing Societal Impact and Alleviating Poverty through Entrepreneurship and Innovation**

This sub-track will focus on innovations in student learning in service of one of society's greatest challenges: Poverty alleviation. Papers that illustrate how to develop mindsets and capabilities for societal impact and poverty alleviation through responsible management education and leadership development are suitable for this sub-track. Papers that discuss innovative pedagogical methods, such as action learning activities, use of multi-/cross-disciplinary faculty teams, curricular/program/course change strategies, involvement of stakeholders as learning partners, that enhance student understanding of how entrepreneurship and innovation can support poverty alleviation, the advancement of related SDGs and responsible management and leadership development are also welcome for this session. Case studies that focus on the intersection of poverty alleviation, entrepreneurship and social impact can also be submitted for this sub-track.

The sub-track sessions are designed for maximum interaction, discussion and mutual learning. They will provide presenters with valuable feedback for further improving their respective research, publishing and teaching opportunities and practices.

In collaboration with the PRME **Business for Peace (B4P)** Working Group, our WG has proposed a **joint track** on *Business for Peace and Poverty Alleviation for Conflict Prevention and/or Recovery*. This track calls for contributions across different issues and geographies and is aimed at exploring the role that responsible management education for the change-makers of the future could and should play in addressing the causes and consequences of conflicts taking place at local, regional and/or global level.

We have also proposed the **4th edition** of the *Building RME Implementation Coalitions for Impact in the Decade of Action* **roundtable** that will focus on the *RME Entrepreneurial and Innovation Potential for Enhancing Societal Impact*. This builds on the success of the previous three roundtables held at the 6th, 7th and 8th RMER Conferences, which brought together major players within and beyond the landscape of RME to discuss how to create synergy through closer internal and external communication and collaboration.

As per tradition, we are planning to have our **WG Planning Session**, where the current activities and new ideas for the future WG projects will be presented and discussed, hopefully in person.

We are strongly encouraging our WG members **to submit conference track proposals**. The conference theme of innovation and entrepreneurship is well-positioned to do that given that poverty alleviation cuts across WG members' diverse research and teaching interests. **Track proposals are due 15 March 2022**. More specific details are on the [conference home page](#). You can also contact Al Rosenbloom at right2al@comcast.net, Milenko Gudić at milenko.gudic@gmail.com or Carole Parkes at Carole.Parkes@winchester.ac.uk.

Stakeholder Dialogue Series and Conference: Management Education for Peaceful World -- Poverty, Corruption and Universal Human Values

World events have highlighted the important role that responsible management education plays in fostering the well-being of all by creating a peaceful world-order through purposeful, inclusive economic and human development that is grounded in universal values and collaborative partnership. As announced in December's Update, this conference is groundbreaking in both its focus on universal values and its design based on regional stakeholder dialogue sessions that will contribute to the final conference.

Champions are needed to help develop the virtual stakeholder dialogue sessions lasting approximately 90 minutes. Our WG members have extensive professional and personal networks that engage a wide-range of relevant stakeholders that can contribute to this topic:

- Faculty members from Universities/ B-Schools
- Researchers
- Policy Makers/ Regulators
- Representative of Accreditation Agencies
- University/ B-School Administrators
- Corporate/ Industry representatives
- Officials from International Development Agencies
- Officials from Regional University/B-School Associations
- Members from Civil Society/ NGOs

Conference organizers envision tailored, regional sessions that can include the most relevant stakeholders in the region. Given world events, **would you be willing be a regional champion?** If so, please contact: Shiv Tripathi (shivktripathi@hotmail.com) for the updated Project Concept Document, with Al Rosenbloom (right2al@comcast.net) and Milenko Gudić (milenko.gudic@gmail.com) in copy.

News from our Members and Partners

- Our WG member **Xuanwei Cao** (China), who hosted the 8th RMER Research Conference held last October in Suzhou, is sharing with us that he successfully turned one of his dream projects into reality. [He established the RCE Suzhou](#), a Chinese member of the [Regional Centres of Expertise](#) on ESD (RCEs). This achievement will enable his School and University to make breakthroughs in driving sustainability literacy in its local community.
- **Petra Mortan-Hill** and **Alex Hope**, co-chairs of the PRME **Climate Working Group**, are informing on a series of [Green Stories Writing Competitions](#), across various formats to solicit stories that showcase what a sustainable society might look like. Open to all, the series offer prizes ranging from £200-1,000.
- Our friends from **Business Fights Poverty** are inviting our WG members to join their virtual **Gender Summit 2022** to be hosted on 8-9 March in partnership with Avon, UN Foundation and IDRC on 8-9 March. To [register for free](#) please use the code BFPGS22. The event, consisting of a series of interactive sessions, is timed with the International Women's Day and ties in with its theme of *"Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow"*: shining a spotlight, not just on the climate change impacts and challenges for women, but also on the fact that it is women and girls who are leading efforts around the world to build a more equitable and resilient future.

Looking forward to our future communication and collaboration in the coming months,

With best wishes,

Al Rosenbloom and Milenko Gudić

P.S. Attached please find the latest updated **WG membership list**, which includes **222 members** from **178** institutions in **62** countries!