Call for papers

CSR and Human Systems Management

Call for papers for a HSM special issue on CSR and Human Systems Management

Guest-editors: Pavel Castka and Alan E. Singer
University of Canterbury, New Zealand

Description

Globalization, international trade and communications have resulted in a diffusion of business knowledge and financial capital. At the same time, these changes have fostered a growth in social activism and prompted a global debate on the role of business in society. Coupled with recent scandals and corruption revelations, this has engaged an ever increasing number of managers, scholars, government representatives and social activists in the shaping of a serious corporate social responsibility (CSR) agenda.

For this special issue of Human Systems Management (HSM) we seek papers that place this CSR agenda relative to the main tenets of HSM. Linkages and interfaces between HSM and CSR should be developed, whilst points of tension, harmony and synergy should be identified and elaborated upon.

In its broadest sense, CSR refers not only to ISO 26000 (international guidance standard for social responsibility), the UN Global Compact and to GRI Guidelines, but also to the much wider set of management orientations reflected in fields such as: business ethics, business and society, critical management, social and green entrepreneurship and marketing, as well as ethical investing and accounting ethics. The many interrelated themes include (i) stakeholder management, (ii) business-government partnerships, (iii) strategies of compensation for the known limitations of market based systems, (iv) concerns for social justice and an ethic of care, and (v) accounting and reporting social and environmental effects of enterprise.

HSM refers broadly to “striving for productivity, efficient performance and technical competence” and “linking humans into productive teams and catalyzing their creative potential through enterprise, innovation and participation”. More specifically, it advances several tenets and conceptual frameworks intended to guide the successful management of modern enterprises. These include (i) Knowledge as the coordination of action, (ii) Wisdom as the explication of purpose, (iii) Organisation as organism, (iv) Enterprise purpose as self-production (autopoiesis) and service to society, (iv) Ethics in business as “mastery of the micro-context”, (v) Business enterprise as the most reliable expression of human culture, (vi) Multi-form capital (social, human, ecological, manufactured and financial), (vii) Management-without-tradeoffs (e.g., optimization by design, cognitive-equilibrium), (vii) encouraging spontaneity in organisations, and (viii) an absence of grand ideology (e.g., M. Zeleny (2005) Human Systems Management, World Scientific Press: NJ & Singapore).

Accordingly, this special issue creates an opportunity for publishing research from a wide spectrum of the social and managerial sciences, including philosophy. Papers may be conceptual, empirical, or applied. In line with the aims of HSM we particularly encourage explanations of relevant practices currently being contemplated or employed by world-class international management.

Submission details

Submissions to the special issue should be sent electronically (in Microsoft Word format) to pavel.castka@canterbury.ac.nz or alan.singer@canterbury.ac.nz by 1st June 2007. Papers should be prepared using the HSM authors instructions available in the “Authors Corner” section on www.iospress.nl.
Important Dates

Paper submission deadline: June 1, 2007
Expected date of publication: 1st Quarter of 2008

Guest editors

Pavel Castka  
Department of Management  
University of Canterbury  
Private Bag 4800  
Christchurch  
New Zealand  
E-mail: pavel.castka@canterbury.ac.nz  
http://www.mang.canterbury.ac.nz/people/castka.shtml

Alan E. Singer  
Department of Management  
University of Canterbury  
Private Bag 4800  
Christchurch  
New Zealand  
E-mail: alan.singer@canterbury.ac.nz  
http://www.geocities.com/alan.singer/index.htm