LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear colleagues and friends,

in Paris we had a fantastic conference with a record number of participation!

Our plenaries with timely and relevant topics and a wonderful artistic performance will long be remembered. Many thanks to John Bessant, Pippa West and Richard Lamming for their meaningful and creative way of leading us in innovative thinking!

Our conference started with the DC Programme for which we initially received 88 submissions of which 72 were accepted. We are grateful to our 14 speakers, 26 mentors and DC co-chairs who kindly contributed to this fabulous event.

Our conference had also a novelty this year. Our colleagues in the LOC organised three interesting “Labs” for the professional development focusing on theory, teaching and innovation with practitioners which were held at Université Paris-Dauphine. We would like to thank the LOC and all the chairs and speakers of each of three Labs. These well-attended Labs will be kept as good practice in the coming years as well.

The conference offering was very wide with 79 tracks, 16 symposia and 15 DWGs. In total we had over 1300 participants from more than 50 countries present in Université Paris Est Créteil.

I would like to thank our conference chair Julienne Brabet, DC co-chair Laurence Beierlein, webmaster Asmaé Diani and each colleague at the LOC for organizing such a great conference. I would also like to extend my thanks to Conference Programme Committee, executive committee members, SIG and track chairs and officers, reviewers, authors, participants, our PCO DEKON and our executive officer Luisa Jaffé. Let us not forget the partner universities who deserve our gratitude for their active involvement and sponsorship: Universités Paris-Dauphine, Paris 13/Sorbonne
Paris Cité and Paris-Est Marne la Vallée as well as ESCP Europe, HEC Paris and ISTEC Paris were partners of Université Paris-Est Créteil (UPEC, its Management Research Centre: IRG and its Business School: IAE Gustave Eiffel) for the organisation of EURAM 2016.

I would like to congratulate all the winners of the EURAM 2016 Conference Awards, DC Awards, EMR Award and TUM Award.

We are happy that new colleagues have joined us at the Board as national representatives:

Lithuania- Asta Pundzie, ISM University of Management and Economics
Poland - Dorota Dobija, Kozminski University
Portugal - Miguel Pereira Lopes, Instituto Superior de Ciencias Sociais e Politicas.

We are delighted to have two new fellows: Anna Grandori, Bocconi University and Morten Huse, BI Norwegian Business School and University of Witten/Herdecke.

There are also changes in the Executive Committee. Yehuda Baruch, Southampton University, joined us as the Vice President Research with many inspiring projects. Harry Sminia, Strathclyde University, as our next conference chair, is looking forward to seeing you in Glasgow in 2017.

A warm welcome to our new board members, fellows and executive committee members. I am looking very much forward to collaborating with them.

Our fantastic conference chair and Vice President HR, Julienne Brabet, resigned after long years of remarkable service to EURAM. She will continue to serve EURAM in different capacities. Finally, Luca Gnan has come to the end of his presidency and has taken the role of past president in the Executive Committee. I am grateful to both of them for their outstanding contributions to our community.

As I start my term as president I would like to share with you once again my main objectives as defined in my policy statement:

• Thinking out of the box: EURAM needs to go beyond the implicitly legitimised relationships in the business world and academic institutions and embrace new ways of acting and thinking.
• Changing the rules of the game: Instead of submissive reception of imposed rules EURAM can play a major role in changing the rules of the game regarding ranking and evaluation. Our rich European cultural heritage may contribute to the elaboration of more meaningful rules which will improve our search for truth, creativity and reflexive critical voice.
• Being genuine: Building a genuine association rather than a poor replica of existing associations. EURAM will benefit from good practices, but also will create its own model.
• Transdisciplinary focus: EURAM needs to go beyond the boundaries of management and have a transdisciplinary approach to provide relevant and rigorous solutions to highly complex issues and problems of contemporary world.
• Organisational innovation: EURAM needs to create a new governance structure to promote voluntarism and democracy to involve both prominent scholars and young colleagues into the functioning of our association by organizing elections at each level.

It is my pleasure to invite you, my colleagues, to join me to serve further for advancing the journey of this remarkable institution.

Wishing you a restful summer holiday!

Sibel Yamak, President
JOINT EVENTS AND SIG THEMATIC CONFERENCES
http://www.euramonline.org/newsroom/events.html

6th Cycle of Creating European Research Leadership in partnership with European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD)

Purpose: To exchange, develop and apply knowledge and experiences to improve the role of potential and current research directors.

Module 1: 18-21 October 2016
Module 2: 7-9 December 2016

Registration: https://www.efmd.org/index.php?option=com_rsf&formId=141

The European Academy of Management Early Career Network invites advanced PhD-students, Postdocs, and recently appointed Lecturers or Assistant Professors in management and cognate fields of research to meet peers, mentors, and members of the EURAM top management team at the

8th EURAM Early Career Colloquium on “Impact”

Dates: 5-7 March 2017, Rabat, Morocco
Deadline for application: 15 November 2016
Co-hosted by ESC Rennes School of Business (France) and Rabat Business School, International University of Rabat (Morocco)

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

The 8th EURAM Early Career Colloquium continues a tradition of successful colloquia in seven European cities with bringing it to Africa. Co-hosted by two leading institutions of higher management education, the venue of this exciting interface-event will be in the twin-towns of Rabat and Salé, Morocco’s capital region.

The main objective of this colloquium is to offer a platform for early career management scholars from Europe and Africa. Participants will experience the proven blend of informal gettogether, discussion on professional challenges, expert advice, and paper development session (including the option for submission of revised manuscripts to a dedicated EECC track at the EURAM 2017 in Glasgow).

The theme of the EECC in Rabat-Salé is “Impact”. Talks and interventions of our mentors and experts as well as group discussions will focus on and challenge dominant strategies of assessing, simulating, and actually exerting influence in academia and beyond.

More information: http://www.euram-online.org/community/eecc.html
EURAM 2017, Glasgow, Scotland
21-24 June 2017
Theme: Making Knowledge Work
First announcement of Call for Papers: 26 September 2016

Doctoral Colloquium 2017
19-21 June 2017, Glasgow
Deadline for submissions to PhD Colloquium: 24 January 2017

EURAM 2018, Reykjavik, Iceland
20-22 June 2018
The host is the Business School of the University of Iceland, which is located in central Reykjavik. Iceland has been gaining a lot of attraction as a conference location, as it offers great experience and interesting venues. The theme of the conference is Research in Action. The event chaired by Dr. Eythor Ivar Jonsson, promises to attract high quality research but also offer lots of action and experience.

EIASM Calendar:
http://www.eiasm.org/r/default.asp?ild=EEDIIU
EDEN Calendar:

European Management Review
To access the European Management Review Click on
http://journals.euram-online.org/pw/associations/euram/euramlogin.asp?item=jrn&association_id=15

EURAM@Headquarters will give EURAM members short news about programmes and initiatives organised or followed up in our headquarters in Brussels.
For any questions or to send your news for the next newsletter, contact Luisa Jaffé luisa@eiasm.be – Executive Officer.
**SIG Corporate Governance**

**1st Paper Development Workshop of the EURAM’s SIG on Corporate Governance**

**28-29 September 2016, Valencia (Spain)**

This workshop is aimed to help researchers, interested on these topics, to improve their papers in order to increase their chances to get published in top journals. With the collaboration of three of the most highly recognised journals in the COGO field, the workshop offers the opportunity to closely interact with editors of high-impact journals, and get direct and specific feedback that will help authors to further develop their papers and target top journals.

In collaboration with:

- Journal of Management Studies
- Corporate Governance: An International Review
- European Management Review

Important dates and info:

**Deadline for submissions (full papers): 21 June 2016**

Announcement of accepted papers as of: 15 July 2016

Workshop dates: 28-29 September 2016

Contact: tmt@uv.es

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**New collaborations between institutes.**

For more information, contact Pingping Liu, Beijing Wuzi University, pingbd@hotmail.com

New collaboration with professor Hui Wang of Peking University to research two projects. The first is “Transitional economy, strategic leaders, and developments of Chinese firms”. It is a key program of the National Science Foundation of China. It is responsible for studying the growth pattern of Chinese entrepreneurs under the transformation of economic environment in China. The second is “The antecedents and consequences of leader-member exchange differentiation”. It is a General Program of National Science Foundation of China. The research focuses on authoritarian leader-member relationship.

**II Lusophone Conference on Organizational Behavior and Management**

**“Governance, Ethics and Welfare in the Lusophone Space”**

**Venue and Date:**

University of Azores, Ponta Delgada, Azores Islands

10th to 12th November 2016

For further information, please consult here:


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**Unlock your organizational potential**

Continuity and expansion of changes are increasing. Workplaces require almost continuous employee adaptation. The enduring pressures lead to experience of being stuck in:

- situations where people feel overburdened
- feeling dissatisfied despite of success
- running around in circles

Consequences are: social isolation, decreased engagement, loss of productivity (job lock and/or illness), costs of increased sick leave days, (re)allocation, and discontinuity.

Dr. Anna Huyssse developed a training and coaching methodology which is available as an online, blended and offline course.

Do you want to know more? anna.huyssse@gmail.com; tel. +31 6 13 776 418
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLAV 2016 - 9th Latin American Retail Conference
CLAV aims to promote the generation, sharing and dissemination of knowledge in retail, to advance theory and practice of this area of research in the LA and international context. For this edition, CLAV encourages the discussion of the evolution of retail around the theme of Collaborative Economy.
Call for Papers
Full papers (theoretical and empirical scientific papers; executive papers)
Extended Abstracts
Undergrad Research
The best scientific papers (full text) will be considered for publication in Revista de Administração de Empresas Retail Forum edition
Submission deadline: July 18th, 2016.
Website: http://clav2016.fgv.br/

A much needed study about high-impact SMEs in Finland has just been finalized.
The research team consisting of assistant professor Thommie Burström (Hanken School of Economics), project manager Mikko Grönlund and project researcher Tuomas Ranti (both at University of Turku) identified 1572 high-impact SMEs. While these firms represent less than 0.5 percent of all SMEs in Finland, they nevertheless account for close to 5 percent of total SME turnover and employment. However, these firms are unevenly distributed in the nation and can mostly be found in densely populated areas: Link to the study: http://www.tekes.fi/globalassets/julkaisut/the_role_of_high-impact_sme_in_finland.pdf

WOIC Conference, December 15-16, 2016
The 3rd Annual World Open Innovation Conference will be held on December 15-16, 2016 at ESADE Business School in Barcelona, Spain (preceded by a PhD seminar, December 13-14).
We welcome a variety of topics that relate to the topic of open innovation, and also specifically call for papers on the topic "Open Innovation in the Digital Age". Please see the conference website (http://woic.corporateinnovation.berkeley.edu) for more information.
Key dates:
- July 1, 2016: Submission website opens
- August 15, 2016: Submission deadline for extended abstracts
- September 15, 2016: Notification of accepted papers
- December 1, 2016: Submission of full papers

For all our Italian friends and associates:
SYDIC Association Campaign - Membership 2016/2017
The System Dynamics Italian Chapter (SYDIC), the Italian branch of the System Dynamics Society, has opened its 2016/2017 registration campaign. Joining SYDIC means contributing to the development and dissemination of the System Dynamics (Forrester, 1968) and Systems Thinking (Senge, 1990) methodologies in Italy, and abroad. Among the offered services, there will be a series of Web Seminars, both methodological and thematic on focused topics and applications that we are sure will meet your interest. Soon we will publish on our website the full list of all SYDIC Webinars for 2016 and 2017. Stay tuned!
More information and details on services to members here: http://www.systemdynamics.it/chi-siamo/associarsi.html
Don't loose this chance to become a SYDIC member!
**CEEMAN/Emerald Case Writing Competition: deadline 24 June**

The aim of the competition is to encourage and promote the development of high-quality teaching case material relevant for the realities of dynamic and emerging economies, and at the same time promote the development of case-writing capabilities in those countries. The total CEEMAN/Emerald award prize pool is worth over €10,000, including €4,000 prize money, with prizes awarded to the overall winner and two runners-up. All cases submitted to the competition will also be considered for publication in the Emerald Emerging Markets Case Studies (EEMCS) collection. Read more about the competition requirements and criteria at [http://www.ceeman.org/cwc](http://www.ceeman.org/cwc).

**Call for posters for 24th CEEMAN Annual Conference in Tallinn: deadline 30 June**

Faculty and researchers are invited to submit presentation abstracts for the poster session “My Solution to Educational Challenges in the Digital World” within the 24th CEEMAN Annual Conference “Management Education for a Digital World”, taking place on 28-30 September in Tallinn, Estonia. The session invites presenters to showcase their work in one or several of the following areas (sub-tracks): teaching case studies; research; teaching tools & techniques; other experience relevant to the conference theme.

Abstract submission deadline: 30 June 2016.


**CEEMAN runs an international research on Management Development Needs in Dynamic Societies**

Earlier this year, CEEMAN has started a significant international effort with the aim to collect insights into the business challenges faced by companies and related management and leadership development needs. This will in turn help management education providers to better adjust their offerings to the real needs of business, and companies to develop more effective training strategies.

The research is conducted by more than 30 research partners in 19 countries (Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Tanzania, and Ukraine). Preliminary results will be presented at the 24th CEEMAN Annual Conference in Tallinn on 28-30 September. Contact: Olga Veligurska, CEEMAN Director, olga.veligurska@ceeman.org

**Call for Chapters: ‘Research Handbook on Sports Governance’**

Dr. Mathieu Winand and Dr. Christos Anagnostopoulos proponents of the Sport Governance track at EURAM are editing a ‘Research Handbook on Sports Governance’ with Elgar Publishing, and are calling for chapters to be considered. More info on the call/handbook by clicking on the following link: [https://goo.gl/Qh5MLK](https://goo.gl/Qh5MLK)

**Forthcoming book on ‘Tourist destinations, clusters and competitiveness’:**

Tourism has become one of the largest and fastest growing sectors in the world economy. Increasingly, research on tourism destinations has been at the centre of debates concerning destination competitiveness, governance, policies and destination management and marketing.

This book investigates tourist destinations from two different perspectives. First, it approaches destinations using the concept of tourist clusters and investigates their role in competitiveness and firm performances. The second perspective studies the development of models of competitiveness and governance. It also develops an international benchmarking system of 15-EU countries, with an additional focus on Italy, UK and United States.

Thank you for cooperating

Dear EURAM members and friends,

In this sad period when the European dream seems to be floundering, I believe that it is more than ever our duty to collectively produce knowledge about cooperation in organisations and to cooperate in building the Future of Education and Research in Management.

Thank you for taking part in the EURAM 2016 Conference. We hope that, in the tradition of EURAM engaged scholarship, this conference constituted a step forward toward our cooperation and that Paris offered a stimulating environment for this purpose.

I do not think that EURAM should be a user friendly provider of service, but an association of volunteers aiming at producing research that matters for Business and Society, disseminating its results and building the institutional conditions allowing it. In spite of floods and strikes, you have been very active in our scientific and institutional debates.

Thank you to all the keynote speakers, panellists, editors and authors that nurtured our reflections. Thank you to all the chairs who have been preparing this event for a long time, we are well positioned to understand what efforts it takes.

Having resigned from the EURAM Executive Committee, I trust that our association will continue to try changing the rules of the management academic field (and I shall participate as much as I can in this endeavour) as well as to facilitate cooperative research and pedagogic projects.

The EURAM ecosystem is reinforcing itself and will develop its partnerships; it offers a unique opportunity to study the formidable transformation of our productive, research, educative systems and to work for a sustainable world.

We look forward to meeting you soon around common projects and next year in Glasgow for our next annual Conference,

Kind regards,

Julienne Brabet and the Local Organising Committee
“Imperfect but constructive: Debiasing attempts in M&A Departments”

Xena Welch Guerra has won the best paper award of the Behavioral Strategy track for her paper “Imperfect but constructive: Debiasing attempts in M&A Departments”. The award of a paid trip for a research talk at Lisbon University Institute is sponsored by Global Economics and Management Review (http://www.journals.elsevier.com/global-economics-and-management-review).

Call for Papers: Special Issue International Journal of Public Sector Management

The SIG Public and Non-Profit Management started its activities in Paris with a keynote speech by Paloma Baena Olabe and Conal Smith from the OECD, focusing on the methodologies behind the “Trust in Public Institutions” project, introduced by Andrea Bonomi Savignon (University of Rome Tor Vergata).

The panel has sparked great interest by bringing together institutional actors and academics working on public outcomes.

The SIG presented its Best Paper Award 2016 to Bert George, Kenn Meyfroodt, Sebastian Desmidt and Eva Cools for their research on “Cognitive Styles, User Acceptance and Commitment to Strategic Plans in Public Organizations: an Empirical Analysis”. The award has been sponsored by the International Journal of Public Sector Management and Emerald.

A call for papers for a special issue of IJPSM on “Is Local Always Better? Strengths and Limitations of Local Governance for Service Delivery”, co-edited by Reto Steiner (University of Bern) has been launched as an outcome of the SIG Winter Workshop in Cape Town held in December. More info here: http://bit.ly/1UH0WIC

Linus Dahlander honored with the TUM Research Excellence Award of the Peter Pribilla Foundation

At EURAM’16, Associate Professor Linus Dahlander of ESMT Berlin received the TUM Research Excellence Award 2016 for his distinguished work in the field of “Innovation & Leadership”. The laudatory speech was held by Prof. John Bessant. With a value of 10,000 €, the bi-annual award by the Peter Pribilla Foundation honors significant contributions of emerging scholars and early career academics.

The jury was especially impressed by the winner’s insightful research published in his Strategic Management Journal paper on “[...]How does individuals’ external search breadth affect innovation outcomes?” We invite the interested audience to take a closer look at the young researcher’s output at https://www.esmt.org/linus-dahlander.

Photo by Nicolas Darphsin.
Best Conference Reviewer
Given to the awardees by Julienne Brabet, Conference Chair
Selection Committee:
Sibel Yamak, President, Galatasaray University
Silke Machold, Vice President, University of Wolverhampton
Anne-Katrin Neyer, Vice President, Martin-Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg

1. Amy Church-Morel, IAE Savoie Mont Blanc (France)
   SIG International Management

EURAM 2016 Best Conference Paper
Given to Elio Shijaku by Hans Lundberg, Vice President Conferences, Linnaeus School of Business
Beauty or beast: Organizational Aspirations and Dynamic Embeddedness in Strategic Transactions – SIG Strategic Management
Selection Committee composed of EURAM Fellows: Peter McKiernan, Kathrin Moeslein and Joan E. Ricart

EURAM 2016 Most Inspirational Paper
Given to Nuran Acur by Wojciech Czakon, Vice President Strategic Interest Groups, University of Economics in Katowice
Erica Mazzola, Università di Palermo, Mariangela Piazza, Università di Palermo, Nuran Acur, University of Strathclyde, Giovanni Perrone, Università di Palermo
The impact of fairness on the performance of crowdsourcing: an empirical analysis of two intermediate crowdsourcing platforms - SIG Innovation
Selection Committee composed of EURAM Fellows: Donatella Deperu, Thomas Durand, Pierre Dussauge and Anne S. Huff
Given to Stewart Clegg by Mustafa Özbilgin, Editor in Chief, Brunel University
Embodying Sensemaking: Learning from the Extreme Case of Vann Nath, Prisoner at S-2, Volume 12, Issue 1, Spring 2015, Pages: 41–58
Miguel Pina E Cunha, Nova School of Business and Economics, Universidade Nova de Lisboa (Portugal), Stewart Clegg, University of Technology (Australia), Sydney, Arménio Rego, Universidade de Aveiro, Aveiro, Portugal and Jorge Gomes, ISEG-UL. (Portugal)

EURAM 2016 Doctoral Colloquium Awards

1st Prize
Franco Barbic, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid (Spain), Politecnico di Milano (Italy), & Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden)
Paper: Governance in Multi-Partner Alliances

2nd Prize
Diana W.P. Kwok, IAE Aix Graduate School of Management - Aix-Marseille Université (France),
Paper: An ethno-religious perspective on target firm personnel trust in cross-border acquisitions

3rd Prize
Nils Niehues, University of Siegen (Germany)
Paper: Comparability of Carbon figures and the ability of companies to send signals to investors
**Business for Society in Paris**

Despite bad weather conditions and transportation issues, it seems that “EURAM in Paris” was a great moment for exchange, debates, reflexivity and intellectual engagement.

We aim at making Business for Society as an SIG a strong community within EURAM, where people want to come back every year and participate to any extent in-between. To do so, we need committed members, and it seems that you have acted as such. The conference is not just a place where people present their papers and leave. So many thanks to our members for attending our SIG meetings at EURAM 2016, and feeding our many stimulating discussions! We hope to see them so numerous and engaged as in Paris next year in Glasgow! Congratulations to our award winners as both authors and reviewers!

Just a short reminder of the key information we provided and discussed during our kick-off and wrap-up sessions:

1. EURAM and specially B4S is a place for initiating projects. The 2014 conference in Valencia allowed many members of the conference to gather and publish the “International Perspectives on Crowdfunding: Positive, Normative, and Critical Theory” (J. Meric, I. Maque, J. Brabet eds., Emerald).
2. A call for a special issue of the Society and Business Review “From business and society to business for society: coming (back) to a sounder relation between knowledge and organization” is specially devoted to help our community build on a common engagement regarding knowledge creation in our fields. It should be made public next September/October.
3. Following the presentation of the Responsible Value Chains Initiative during our plenary session, here is the address to the website where one may find academic and NGO resources for research and teaching, identify contacts for collective research or teaching projects, or contribute to each one’s academic production on this issue: www.responsibleglobalvaluechains.org.

We are looking forward to receiving (the best) news from our members!

The B4S SIG team,
Jérôme Méric, SIG Chair
Rémi Jardat, past SIG Chair
Corinne Vercher, Program Chair
Francesco Gangi, General Track Chair
Strategic Management in Paris

SIG Strategic Management kicked-off Wednesday with state of the art discussions on inter-organizational collaboration, intra-organizational collaboration and cross-fertilization!

Thursday we continued active discussion with symposia on Mergers and Acquisitions and Strategic Renewal. The dinner at an exquisite Parisian restaurant was the cherry on the cake! We all enjoyed the time with colleagues, and the handing over of the awards.

Friday, after the relaxing dinner, we continued with Strategic Followership symposia. Followed by the SIG Wrap-up. Overall, we agreed that track sessions had been engaging. We also came with novel ideas to be implemented next year.
Paris Photos

on the EURAM website
http://www.euram-online.org/newsroom/media/annual-photos/268-photos-2016.html
Special track on ‘self-employment and freelancing’
This year’s conference featured a special track on ‘self-employment and freelancing,’ with valuable contributions from members of the Centre for Research on Self-Employment (CRSE). A networking event attended by leading minds in the areas of entrepreneurship and solo self-employment followed a day of lively discussion and debate at the conference. The CRSE is the international think tank for research on self-employment and freelancing. Its impact has been far-reaching, with the publication of a research handbook, workshops and ongoing engagement with policymakers and business leaders to ensure the work of the CRSE has a genuine impact on the sector. Visit the website to learn more or join the network.

Fab lab, coworking space, start-up accelerator... New spaces of cooperation?
During the 16th EURAM Conference, Julie Fabbri (Ecole polytechnique i3-CRG) and Anna Glaser (Novancia Business School) have organized the DWG “Fab lab, coworking space, start-up accelerator... New spaces of cooperation?” sponsored by the SIG Entrepreneurship. They welcomed three speakers coming from different theoretical backgrounds (innovation management, entrepreneurship, information systems) to share views about this nascent research topic: Sihem Ben Mahmoud-Jouini (HEC Paris), Thierry Rayna (Novancia & Imperial College London), François-Xavier de Vaujany (Paris-Dauphine University). They detailed illustrative examples of collaborative spaces in France, Russia, and Canada. They discussed how the theoretical perspectives they use are challenged by these new objects. Continue reading link: https://collaborativespacesstudy.wordpress.com/2016/06/14/euram-2016-fab-lab-coworking-space-start-up-accelerator-new-spaces-of-cooperation/
Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I am very happy to meet you here in Paris.

Some of you are already aware that my presidential term is coming to a close at this conference – and now, the time for passing the baton is near...

Don’t worry, I’m not about to sing a ‘swan song’ in front of you – but before I bow out of my final show as President of EURAM, I thought I’d take this opportunity to say a few words and share some thoughts with you, borrowing from Sinatra’s signature song "My Way"...

For the last 6 years, I have proudly been part of the team that acts as the Custodians of EURAM, a Fellowship where there are no premium Members, but rather Members adhering to a common goal: to facilitate management education and research through Mutual Recognition.

I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to serve the EURAM Community – a Community of European Engaged Scholars.

I know this Academy very well, and I care deeply about its future success. I leave the Presidency knowing that EURAM’s values are well intact and evolving steadily towards sharing and strengthening.

Regrets I have few – but then again, I did what I had to do, and saw things through without exemption...

I am enormously proud of the work we have done together and I want to thank you, the many individuals whose goodwill, shared vision, and contributions makes this all possible every day, week, month, and year.

And may I say (not in a shy way): I am confident that the work we've together done thus far will serve EURAM in good stead for many years ahead.

I’m committed to my duties as Past President for the year ahead, until the next EURAM Annual Conference, and look forward to working with you in the coming months on an effective leadership transition. I wish my successor, Sibel Yamak, the very best. A great scholar, a wonderful woman, animated by the spirit of service. A real leader indeed. A real friend of mine.

Talking about leadership, leaders and leadership transition, I would like to share some of my thoughts on this:

Leaving the details, ifs and buts aside, focusing on core essentials, individuals aspiring leadership, often can be divided in two categories: firstly, those who invest through a task to improve the organisation they are serving. They are eager to find a way to do so, cautious about the present dangers they can encounter, but above all in the near future. They have a single objective: a strong organisation, inclusive and more and more successful. Again, like our next president, Sibel. And then, there are the others who see their result as a mean to nurture their own interests, to acquire power, to climb higher peaks. For those, their interest does not lie with the organisation, the world revolves around them (or even worse around their group).
The unscrupulousness of the second type of individuals leads them to always to demonstrate that the organisation has devoted only to them to preserve the values of the organization itself. Investing for the future does not make sense, they are looking for consensual relationships. They promote events, shows, shines, and legitimates their behaviour as if they were inspired by higher values and explanations that conceal their own interests.

A good question is then: how to distinguish between these two opposing types of individuals?

One way might be: Just look at them. Those who identify themselves with an organisation are busy, they make every effort to obtain the best results from their task accomplished. They try to understand the reality to achieve the best results and they are involved in potentially harmful situations. Those individuals who live for an organization speak passionately, know its problems, explain how they acting, and share their doubts, aspirations and plans.

They are extremely detailed-oriented, inclusive and engaging.

The other ones, “self-interested” read the dimensions of reality as instruments or will never read them. In a way, behind the scenes, from a harmless standpoint, they will discuss intrigues, political manoeuvres, and benefits. They are playing the game, yet surely, they will never tell you about their motives.

My dear international colleagues and friends, ask not what EURAM can do for you – but what you can do for EURAM! Together, YOU and EURAM can build a better and more inclusive, impactful, and effective world in your chosen field of research and education.

EURAM can only operate thanks to a large pool of volunteers, extremely detailed-oriented, inclusive and engaging, of whom the Vice Presidents, Board Members, SIG Chairs and Officers, Track Chairs and Reviewers, all play a key role. I can only thank them collectively here, but hope to meet many of them during the conference to acknowledge their unique contribution to the Academy.

Last, but certainly not least, therefore, many thanks to all the Executive Committee Members: Sibel Yamak, Wojciech Czakan, Hans Lundberg, Salvo Tomaselli, Silke Machold, Anne-Katrin Neyer, Julienne Brabet, Corinne Vercher, Mustafa Ozbilgin, and Luisa Jaffé, who have helped me sail smoothly through my years of presidency.

Finally, she is here, my very thoughts are turned to my wife, Lucrezia, for her unlimited support to my dedication to accomplish my mission, my duties in my professional engagement. She has constantly strengthen me in moments of doubt... without her I wouldn’t have been able to withstand.

Whatever major challenges may lie ahead, I hope that the future EURAM will remain the pivotal point of reference as the unique European Academy of Management Scholars, yet one that truly facilitates research collaboration and hybridisation, and remains invaluable across countries in developing management education.

And so, as I face the final curtain, I’ll state the case, of which I’m certain: as one of the Custodians of EURAM, I’ve lived a life that’s full – and more, much more than this, I did it my way...

Of course, I realise Frank Sinatra’s “My Way” could well be one of the most popular songs for a sad occasion – but I assure you I am actually very happy, and view this as a joyful moment where we can celebrate EURAM achievements together.

I look forward to returning to scholarly life again and facing new challenges – with much anticipation and excitement.

However, I do hope that my two years’ service as EURAM President are well appreciated as my contribution to this worthy Community, and that you will Associate me with the Academy development me in a good way.

Long live the spirit of service!

Thank you and Au revoir!

Luca is out.
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