

Symposium Proposal

The Leadership Dynamics of Systems Change: What Leadership for Flourishing?

Despite calls to mark this the ‘decade of action’ (UN, 2021) and the priority of responsible leadership to take centre stage (WEF, 2021), the systems change called for is still lagging. Despite calls for (Birkenshaw & Gudka, 2022; Moldoveanu & Narayanda, 2022) and active efforts to advance a Responsible Management Learning agenda (Laasch et al., 2020) and frameworks of curriculum development that promote competence-based approaches (Laasch et al., 2023), a civility-based orientation (Colombo, 2022) the development of leaders and leadership fails to demonstrate marked improvements in action (Mintzberg, 2009; 2015) which Antonacopoulou (2010) explains ought to be the essence of impact (IMProving ACTion) and the way it is measured.

The prospect that education itself may be responsible for the limited sense of responsibility is becoming more alarming (Schinkel, 2022), especially given education is heralded as central to social change necessary for sustainable development not least, because human action is at the epicentre of the ecological crisis marking the new epoch of the Anthropocene – human destructive impact on the ecosystem. Therefore, a critical priority is to radically expand how responsibility is cultivated and activated in leadership activities both to enrich the dynamics and systemic changes urgently needed.

If we are to mobilise the systems change necessary we need to redesign the system of educating for leadership. This necessarily must also go beyond the leadership dynamics marked in the ongoing ‘grand challenges’, ‘wicked problems’, ‘ethical dilemmas’ that are all well accepted dimensions of the invitation and provocation to step up and show up as a leader. Perhaps we can turn the very framing of ‘problem’ on itself and ask: *What leadership for flourishing?*

Flourishing is becoming a global ‘rule’ (e.g., ESG standards) and is also anticipated to mark the makings of the 5th Industrial Revolution (soon to be officially announced by the World Economic Forum) and has already catalysed a significant momentum in academic, practitioner and policy fora (Las Heras et al., 2023; Richie-Dunham, 2022).

Human Flourishing is already a central concept in Aristotle’s notion of *Eudaimonia* and has underpinned much of the emerging field of positive psychology and debates on happiness and wellbeing (VanderWeele, 2017, 2022). It is receiving increasing attention promoting both the closer interdisciplinary examination of the concept (e.g. Las Heras et al, 2023), its practical application in addressing current economic models and measures of prosperity (e.g. Neill and Nevin, 2022) and prompting in some cases, policy makers to embrace Global Flourishing Goals as a new agenda that compliments United Nation Sustainable Development Goals (Karthikeya et al., 2022).

The symposium features thought leaders who call for innovative Human Flourishing approaches and enlightened organizational action on such issues as purpose, stakeholder value and the frailties and shortcomings of humans that threaten our interpersonal and collective well-being as we

demonstrate leadership in everyday life. In addition, leading educators from around the world will share insights and discuss latest initiatives in executive and leadership development practices that promote reflexive learning that prioritize and amplify the best of humanity in leading and organizing. The symposium will comprise facilitated breakout conversations for developing and implementing reflexive learning that inspires novel thinking and energizes improvements in action that restore the value added in leadership education to make a better world.

SYMPOSIUM CONTRIBUTORS

Name	Role	Commitment to Participate
Elena Antonacopoulou, PhD Visiting Professor University of Cyprus Senior Research Fellow, CIM CYPRUS Email: eagnosis@outlook.com	Symposium Organizer Session Chair and Speaker	Confirmed
Emmie Bidston Director of the Wellington College Leadership and Coaching Institute, Associate Fellow of the Oxford Character Project. Senior Fellow of The Human Flourishing Program's Flourishing Network, at Harvard's Institute for Quantitative Social Science UK Email: ejb@cantab.net	Panellist - Speaker	Confirmed
Artavia M. Edwards, PhD Chief Warrant Officer Five (Retired) Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, California Army National Guard USA Email: ambitious.junior@gmail.com	Panellist - Speaker	Confirmed
Gareth Edwards, PhD Professor of Leadership and Community Studies University of the West of England (UWE) UK Email: Gareth3.edwards@uwe.ac.uk	Panellist - Speaker	Confirmed
Katja Eniola, PhD Assistant Professor Center for Responsible Leadership Stockholm School of Economics SWEDEN Email: Katja.Einola@hhs.se	Panellist - Speaker	Confirmed

<p>Can Ererdi, PhD Lecturer in Organisational Behavior & Research Methods Henley Business School, University of Reading UK Email: c.ererdi@henley.ac.uk</p>	<p>Panellist - Speaker</p>	<p>Confirmed</p>
<p>Katy Granville-Chapman, DPhil Founder, Wellington Leadership and Coaching Institute at Wellington College Teaching Fellow, Department of Education, University of Oxford, Associate Fellow, Oxford Character Project and Senior Fellow, Human Flourishing Program Harvard University UK Email: katygc@me.com</p>	<p>Panellist-Speaker</p>	<p>Confirmed</p>
<p>Johan Ivari Lieutenant Colonel Swedish Defence University SWEDEN Email: Johan.Ivari@fhs.se</p>	<p>Panelist - Speaker</p>	<p>Confirmed</p>
<p>Brandyn Keating CEO YOUnify USA Email: brandyn@younify.org</p>	<p>Panellist - Speaker</p>	<p>Confirmed</p>
<p>Elizabeth Neill, PhD Co-Founder The Institute for Flourishing in CANADA Email: Elizabeth@humanflourishing.com</p>	<p>Panellist - Speaker</p>	<p>Confirmed</p>
<p>Andrew S. Nevin, PhD Leader Brainomics Venture Centre for Brain Health, University of Texas at Dallas and Co-Founder The Institute for Flourishing in Canada USA Email: andrew.nevin@utdallas.edu</p>	<p>Panellist - Speaker</p>	<p>Confirmed</p>
<p>Bernd Vogel, PhD Professor in Leadership Henley Business School, University of Reading UK Email: bernd.vogel@henley.ac.uk</p>	<p>Panellist - Speaker</p>	<p>Confirmed</p>

SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

Proposed Date: Monday, 11 th December 2023 Proposed time on the program: 13:15 – 15:15 pm	
Activity	Time allocation
Welcome and introduction to the Symposium <i>Elena Antonacopoulou</i>	<i>5 minutes</i>
Advancing Learning Leadership for Flourishing: Provocations to a Debate <i>Gareth Edwards, UWE, UK</i> <i>Emmie Bidston, Wellington College Leadership and Coaching Institute, UK</i> <i>Katy Granville-Chapman Wellington College Leadership and Coaching Institute, UK</i> <i>Brandyn Keating, Younify, USA</i>	<i>40 minutes</i> <i>(8 minutes each presenter + 2 minutes for change over and clarification questions)</i>
International Innovations in Responsible Leadership and Management Education Fostering Reflexive Learning <i>Bernd Vogel and Can Ererdi, Henley Business School, UK</i> <i>Johan Ivori, Swedish Defence University, SWEDEN</i> <i>Elena Antonacopoulou, Andrew Nevin and Elizabeth Neill, Centre for Brain Health, University of Texas at Dallas and The Institute for Flourishing in CANADA</i>	<i>30 minutes</i> <i>(8 minutes each presenter + 2 minutes for change over and clarification questions)</i>
Human Centred / Responsible Leadership through Reflexive Learning Practices: A Critique <i>Katja Eniola, SSE, SWEDEN</i> <i>Artavia M. Edwards, Chief Warrant Officer Five (Retired) Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, California Army National Guard, USA</i>	<i>20 minutes</i> <i>(8 minutes each presenter + 2 minutes for change over)</i>
Parallel Roundtable Discussions supported by panel members as facilitators	<i>20 minutes</i>
Key Takeaway Call-Outs of roundtable discussion by facilitators Concluding remarks. <i>Elena Antonacopoulou</i>	<i>5 minutes</i>
Total time for the symposium	120 minutes

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- World Economic Forum (WEF) 2021 [How responsible leaders can create an inclusive recovery | World Economic Forum \(weforum.org\)](#)