ABRI’s PhD Summer School in Management Studies

Theme for 2017:

Approaches for studying collaboration across boundaries and the pursuit of common good

We are delighted to invite you to ABRI’s PhD Summer School in Management Studies held at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands, on June 19 - 21, 2017.

The Summer School aims to help PhD candidates and young researchers to understand the complex theoretical field related to collaboration and provides a broad theoretical and methodological toolkit for participants to use in designing and executing their empirical studies. In doing so, the Summer School aims to help participants to attain a better view on how their research can contribute to current literatures. In addition to expanding our theoretical and methodological toolkits, the studies that we will discuss have important implications for various individuals, groups, organizations, and communities in the broader society.

The summer school is organized by Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (Department of Management and Organization) and sponsored by the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Amsterdam Business Research Institute, and VU Business School.

Theme

Due to broad changes in the market and institutional environment, contemporary organizations increasingly use postbureaucratic modes of organizing to produce more effective products and services. New modes of organizing comprise, for example, cross-functional innovation projects, cross-occupational teams in professional organizations, and firm collaborations with competitors, stakeholders, and non-governmental organizations. As organizations increasingly use these different modes of organizing, ability to collaborate across functional, organizational, and institutional boundaries becomes an important determinant of performance of involved actors and the pursuit of common good.

Yet, increasing collaboration across boundaries sets a challenge for students of organization, management, and strategy. As studies show that many collaborations across boundaries fail to generate innovative, synergistic solutions or balance the interests of different parties involved, it would be important to know more about how and when actors with different interests, values, and/or institutional backgrounds can collaborate and engage in collective action. The ABRI Summer School 2017 therefore aims to bring together researchers who share an interest in generating knowledge about how and when actors with different interests,
values, and/or institutional backgrounds can successfully collaborate. Our goal is to better understand theoretical constructs and processes explaining successful collaboration across boundaries.

As collaboration is a topic that has been addressed in several disciplines of social sciences, albeit in different ways, we purposefully immerse ourselves in various literatures that have examined collaboration across boundaries. In so doing, we provide students most up-to-date view on collaboration across boundaries. We will discuss contemporary research examining interorganizational collaboration, collaboration across functions and occupations during creative projects, and collaboration across institutional boundaries.

We organize a summer school on this theme because we believe that focusing on antecedents, processes, and outcomes of cross-boundary collaboration provides an opportunity to generate interesting and relevant research questions and empirical studies that look beyond existing theoretical perspectives. As we discuss the various constructs that contemporary organization, management, and strategy scholarship uses to conceptualize collaboration, we also learn about diversity of methods and research designs used to study collaboration at different levels of analysis and over time.

**Program and Faculty**

The Summer School will involve both host faculty members from Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and guest faculty members from other research institutions. Host faculty members of the Summer School 2017 are: Riku Ruotsalainen, Brian Tjemkes, Jingshu Du, and Marc Bahlmann.

In addition, the following guest faculty members who are among the leading scholars in the theme have committed to participating in the ABRI Summer School 2017: Bernard Leca (ESSEC) and Frank den Hond (Hanken).

A preliminary program of the Summer School is:

**June 19, 10:00 – 16:30** (room HG 9A-24). Collaboration in economics, sociology, strategic management, and organization and management theory.

Faculty members: Riku Ruotsalainen (VU), Brian Tjemkes (VU), and Jingshu Du (VU)

**June 20, 10:00 – 16:30** (room HG 0G-08). Collaboration, social innovation, and the common good.

Faculty members: Bernard Leca (ESSEC) and Riku Ruotsalainen (VU)

June 20, in the evening: Collaborative dinner.

**June 21, 10:00 – 16:30** (room HG 0G-08). Publishing on collaboration and the pursuit of the common good.

Faculty members: Frank den Hond (Hanken, *Organization Studies*), Riku Ruotsalainen (VU), and Marc Bahlmann (VU)
Application procedure
The Summer School will accept up to 25 student participants based on the quality of applications and their fit with the topic. We welcome applications from PhD candidates and young researchers in organization theory, management, strategy, and other related disciplines from all universities worldwide. All PhD candidates will be considered regardless of how many years of doctoral training they have completed, but those who are currently planning or conducting their PhD research projects will be preferred.

The applications should comprise
1. A motivation letter that describes the candidate’s interest in the topic of the Summer School, current research project(s), and contact details (e-mail address, telephone, and mailing address). This should be included in the body of an e-mail and should not be longer than one page.
2. A Curriculum Vitae with educational background, details of the PhD program the applicant is in, professional experience, etc.
3. If available, applicants can include an abstract of a paper that they would like to present during the Summer School. An abstract is not required, but it will help the faculty to evaluate the fit of the applicant with the topic of the Summer School.

Applications should be sent by May 15, 2017 via e-mail to n.m.konijn@vu.nl. All inquiries and questions should be also sent to n.m.konijn@vu.nl. Accepted applicants will be notified about the decision by May 19, 2017.

Tuition fee
The tuition fee of the Summer School is € 245 and includes course materials, lunches, coffee during each day and dinner on Tuesday. Participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs.

Credits
Students can obtain three (3) ECTS credits from this summer school by reading assigned study materials, doing assigned presentations in the classroom, actively participating in classroom discussions, and doing a post-course assignment.

Location
All courses will take place in the main building of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

De Boelelaan 1105
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