

Faith and Management: Complementarities, Contradictions, Concerns.

1st Vienna Symposium on Faith and Management

30-31 October 2017, WU Vienna, Austria

Call for contributions

At least in Western industrialized countries, management studies have been firmly established in universities and business schools for at least a hundred years (Booth & Rowlinson, 2006). Among others, they deal with a profession forming “the assumptions that shape any organization’s behavior, dictate its decisions about what to do and what not to do, and define what the organization considers meaningful results” (Drucker, 2003: 3f.). Recently, scholars have started to address the spiritual dimensions of management by looking at issues such as workplace spirituality (Giacalone & Jurkiewicz, 2003), the impact of spirituality on the effectiveness of organizations (Karakas, 2010), servant leadership (Dierendonck & Patterson, 2010), or the effect of various religious traditions on organizations and their members (Neal, 2013).

Especially in the Anglo-Saxon world, management education has made some room for spiritual paradigms (Delbecq, 2000; Fry, 2009). In parallel, scholarly associations such as the International Association for Management, Spirituality and Religion and a similar interest group at the Academy of Management emerged. In German-speaking countries, this still is a nascent field of study. With some notable exceptions (Edlund, 2013; Zindel, 2012) there are few publications on the subject and few institutionalized discourses going beyond related issues such as corporate social responsibility, sustainability, and ethics.

The *1st Vienna Symposium on Faith and Management* intends to connect scholars from Austria, Germany and Switzerland (the DACH-region) who explore the interface between faith, spirituality & religion on the one hand and management & leadership on the other. We invite conceptual and empirical submissions as well as position-papers, are open for a broad spectrum of theoretical and methodological backgrounds, and specifically encourage scholars from all religious traditions to apply. The symposium will emphasize various forms of interaction among participants. Beyond paper presentation sessions, formats such as panel and plenary discussions, theme-sessions and caucuses will also be part of the program.

Keynote Speakers

- *David W. Miller*, PhD., Director of the Princeton University Faith & Work Initiative
- *Judi Neal*, PhD., Edgewalkers International; founding director of the Tyson Center for Faith and Spirituality in the Workplace, University of Arkansas

Practical Details

- Venue: WU Vienna, Welthandelsplatz 1, 1020 Vienna, Austria.
- Symposium language: **German**; keynote presentations and some sessions in English
- Abstracts (500 words; **German** or **English**): until June 15, 2017; office-ivm@wu.ac.at
- Notification of acceptance: June 30, 2017
- Fee: none; contribution towards expenses: 80 Euros, includes lunch and coffee breaks
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