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Special issue: EAM – International Managing in a Global Economy XII

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Editor's Introduction

Special issue: EAM – International Managing in a Global Economy XII

Joan Weiner
Editor

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The Eastern Academy of Management held its 12th International Conference on Managing in a Global Economy in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, from 24–28 June 2007. The theme “Culture: Integration and Innovation” was chosen because only by understanding and respecting cultural differences can we work together to create the innovations necessary for world survival. In picking the theme and designing the program, we hoped attendees would gain perspective and be prepared to meet the challenges of today's global economy and to help in developing a sustainable and humanitarian world of the future. It was somehow fitting that our venue was the historic Trippenhuis, a unique facility that dates from 1660 and currently is headquarters for the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW). Our closing banquet was held in the home of the Dutch West India Company that helped fund exploration of the new world. Many thanks are due our host institution, Vrije Universiteit, for making this possible.

Over 125 submissions covered a diverse array of academic studies, teaching ideas, executive presentations, and panel discussions. Included were tracks in Practice and Teaching, including Global Management Practices, Business Case Dialogues, Teaching, Strategic and Operations Management, Organizational Theory and Behavior, Governance, Ethics, Social Responsibility and Sustainability, Entrepreneurship and Small Businesses, and Culture and Emerging Ideas.

Two papers from EAM-I Amsterdam are published here and represent both the quality of work presented at the Conference and the breadth of areas of study of our authors – one studying leadership practices in Central Eurasian countries, and the second, corporate responsibility (CR) practices in China. They each were nominated as Outstanding Conference Papers and each then underwent an extensive review process that turns a presentation into a paper of the quality expected by *OMJ* readers. Many thanks to all the reviewers who helped make this happen.

The first paper included here is by Carolyn P. Egri, Carlos Wing-Hung Lo and David A. Ralston. “Perspectives on Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility in China and the US” is a cross-national study that investigates antecedents and outcomes of CR stakeholder practices in the contrasting contexts of China and the US. Identifying and working with contrasts is an important challenge. Perhaps not unexpectedly, the authors found both partial divergence and convergence of CR stakeholder practices.



Kiran M. Ismail and David L. Ford, Jr.'s paper "Discerning Leadership Perceptions of Central Eurasian Leaders: An Exploratory Analysis" examines responses of corporate, government, and NGO managers regarding perceptions of work-related values of effective organizational leadership. And again, this work helps us better understand an emerging area of the global economy.

Looking ahead, the 13th International Conference on Managing in a Global Economy will be held in Rio de Janeiro in 2009. The theme of "Management Challenges for a New World" takes us from a historic venue and to South America for the first time but continues to ask that we learn more about management practices needed in the 21st century.