

Call for papers

Putting Partnerships in their Place: Moral and Material Processes of Place-based Respect, Repair, and Renewal

Submission Deadline: 1st November 2020

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Places "move", "touch", or "shatter" us (Cresswell 2004, 2011, 2016, 2018). To more fully specify the functions of place in tackling societal grand challenges (Lawrence & Dover 2015; Onyas, McEachern & Ryan, 2018), we ask how the morality and materiality of the places organizations “(dis)respect” (de la Chaux, Haugh & Greenwood, 2018) and “(re)build” (McKeever, Jack & Anderson, 2015).

Places, be they towns, cities or other conurbations, are important sites where the challenges of sustainability are realized, become manifest and make real impacts on people’s everyday lives (Borch & Kornberger, 2015). Environmental, social or economic tensions often come to be experienced as of and in places (Callon, 2009; Slawinski, Winsor, Mazutis, Schouden, & Smith, 2019). This special issue invites a closer examination and explanation of the multiple roles place plays in how sustainable worlds are made (Rutland & Aylett, 2008), especially when different types of actors convene in, and interact with fragile ecosystems (De Bakker, et al 2013; Finch, Geiger and Reid, 2017).

We ask how cross-sector partnerships emerge and evolve based on the moral and material concerns specific to lived-in places (Bitzer & Glasbergen, 2010; Offermans & Glasbergen, 2015; Finch, Geiger and Harkness, 2017; Onyas et al. 2018; Peredo, Haugh & McLean, 2018), ranging from coral reefs (Bloomfield & Schleifer, 2017) and forest certification (Burne et al., 2016; D’Antone & Spencer, 2014; Gupta et al., 2016) to unsafe drinking water (Andre, Cho & Laine, 2018) and social inequities (Powell, Hamann, Bitzer & Baker, 2018).

The aim of this call is to bring to the fore the places in which cross-sector partnerships are formed; how they shape the dynamics of partnerships formed and explore how these partnerships come to shape the setting in which they developed. From this perspective partnerships can be viewed as issue networks (Ritvala & Salmi, 2011), hybrid forums (Callon, Lascoume & Barthes, 2009) or meta-organizations (Valente & Oliver, 2019). We call attention to how network of actors that attend to issues unfolding at and across multiple scales (Bansal, Kim & Wood, 2018; Bowen, Bansal &

Slawinski, 2018), come to be construed as matters of concern (Callon & Rabeharisoa, 2008), and to borrow from Cochoy (2014) where cross-sector interactions, as mechanisms for managing concerns, may also act as sites for their creation (Cochoy, 2014; Finch, Geiger and Reid, 2017).

Themes for submissions include:

- How are multi-stakeholder driven policies practiced or performed in specific settings?
- How do the specifics of a place affect the nature and role of partnerships in sustainable policy making and implementation?
- How do eco-systems co-evolve by actively engaging the ethics of place and place-making?
- How are places themselves shaped and performed in the design and practices of specific sustainability initiatives?
- How does place pattern multi-actor partnerships? In partnering with businesses, how do NGOs engage the morality and materiality of place to frame or reframe the challenges or issue under consideration? In partnering with NGOs, how do businesses reconstruct the meaning of the places they inhabit?
- How are issues such as sustainability concretized in place and by emplaced identities and interactions?
- What is the process of localization and translation of either policy or academic models in cross-sector partnering?

We are particularly interested in “putting partnerships in their place” by more fully specifying how complex cross-sector alliances (SDG 17) engage morally and materially with places ranging from land to water to cities and transitional communities (SDGs 14, 6, 15, and 11). Greater sensitivity to how place constrains and enables organizing (Lawrence, 2017) and the multiple scales implied by wicked issues like climate change (Bowen, Bansal & Slawinski, 2018) can enrich theories of cross-sector partnerships in settings riddled with entrenched inequality (Powell, Hamann, Bitzer & Baker, 2018) and fragility (Welter, Xheneti & Smallbone, 2018).

The morality and materiality inherent in places repeatedly reset the reference points for partners (André, Cho & Laine, 2018) by triggering epiphanies (Dentoni, Pascucci, Poldner & Gartner, 2018). Successful partnerships redefine the meaning of places (Howard-Grenville, Metzger & Meyer, 2013; Peredo, Haugh & McLean, 2018). Eco-systems co-evolve with the places they emerge in (Autio, Nambisan, Thomas & Wright, 2018), and place itself is often a critical resource in how eco-systems evolve (Thompson, Purdy & Ventresca, 2018).

This special issue will encourage cross-pollination between the ethics of place (Smith, 2001) and place-making (Lindstedt, 2011), bringing concepts like place detachment and attachment (Kibler, Fink, Lang & Munoz, 2015; Li & Chan, 2018; Rouse, 2016; Stedman, 2002) to the forefront and deliberately “emplace” theories of cross-sector partnering. Submissions will recognize the intricacy and inherent plasticity of the places to rethink how organizations relate to place (Guthey et al. 2014; Hoelscher & Alderman, 2004), and theorize with data how places de- and re-stabilize communities (Steyaert & Katz, 2004). We will also invite place-sensitive forms of knowing (Offermans &

Glasbergen, 2015), welcoming indigenous scholarship and methodologies that honor the voices of silent or displaced actors, such as species depending on natural ecosystems or the homeless or refugees transitioning in between places or living in temporary places. The special issue will contribute a set of place-sensitive theories of partnering that go beyond specifying the context in which partnerships take place (Bitzer & Glasbergen, 2010; Gaddefors & Anderson, 2019) to study places as performative (Gieryn, 2000). Our aim is to begin explaining how the morality and materiality of places fundamentally pattern which partnerships are (in) feasible and why they are (un) desirable (Callon, 2009; Cochoy, 2014; Korsgaard, Ferguson & Gaddefors, 2015; Finch, Geiger and Reid, 2017).

Submission Instructions

Submissions are welcomed from a variety of theoretical, methodological, and disciplinary perspectives, as long as they are closely in line with the topic of the Special Issue. Author guidelines are provided on the website of the *Journal of Business Ethics*. Please note that all manuscripts need to be submitted through the Editorial Manager (<https://www.editorialmanager.com/busi/default.aspx>) by **1st November 2020**, whilst indicating that it is a submission to this Special Issue. Please note that a paper submitted to this special issue cannot be resubmitted to a regular issue at the JBE. This call is associated with the 7th biennial International Symposium on Cross-Sector Social Interactions (CSSI 2020), which will be hosted at the University of Limerick on 24th -26th June 2020. There will be a special paper development workshop at this conference. For more information see www.cssi2020.com If you have any questions about the special issue, please contact the guest editors through the contact details provided above.

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Special Issue editorial team Biographies

Annmarie Ryan, Lecturer in Marketing, Kemmy Business School at the University of Limerick, is the Conference Chair for the 2020 Cross-sector Collaboration and Social Interactions (CSSI) Conference. She also convenes two active research groups (Nord and Market Studies). She works extensively on community facing interdisciplinary projects such as the KBS/SAUL 2013 IU project, and the 2014 Health Futures Lab. Dr. Ryan sits on the editorial review board of *Industrial Marketing Management*, and regularly reviews for *Journal of Marketing Management*, *Marketing Theory*, and *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*. Dr. Ryan's research explores patterns of displacement in the global refugee discourse and how collective bids for the Europe Capital of Culture mobilize communities and renew the identities of cities.

Oana Branzei is Donald F. Hunter Professor of International Business, Associate Professor of Strategy and Sustainability at Ivey Business School and Faculty Scholar at Western University. She is also the founding director of the global PhD Sustainability Academy, an annual event of the

Alliance for Research on Corporate Sustainability. Her research interests, at the intersection of business and society recast organizations as agents of positive social change to reveal the pro-social foundations, forms, and functions of organizing. Dr. Branzei leads multiple large-scale research partnerships on social innovation, social enterprise and sustainable eco-systems. Oana is a field editor for the *Journal of Business Venturing* since 2015. She also serves on the Editorial Review Boards of the *Academy of Management Review*, *Journal of Management* and the *Academy of Management Learning and Education*. She regularly publishes in and reviews for *JBE*. She co-edited the inaugural volume on the “Third Sector”. Dr. Branzei served as leading guest editor on a double special issue of the *Journal of Business Venturing* on “Enterprise Before and Beyond Benefit” and a forthcoming special issue of the *Organization & Environment* on “Regenerative Organizing”.

Susi Geiger is the holder of a highly prestigious European Research Council (ERC) Consolidator Grant from 2018 to 2023 examining participatory and partnership approaches in pharmaceutical and healthcare markets. Recent publications on this topic have been published in *Organization Studies*, *Research Policy*, *Business & Society* and other outlets. She is also co-editor of the book volume “Concerned Markets”. Dr. Geiger sits on the editorial boards of *Marketing Theory*, *Industrial Marketing Management*, *Journal of Business Research*, *Consumption Markets and Culture*, and *Valuation Studies*. She is a regular reviewer for a range of ABS4/FT50 journals and has in the past edited two special issues for international peer-reviewed journals.

Helen Haugh, Senior Lecturer in Community Enterprise and Research Director, Centre for Social Innovation, Judge School of Business, University of Cambridge. Her research interests embrace social and community entrepreneurship, community development and corporate responsibility with special focus on cross sector partnerships and social impact. She has published in leading management and entrepreneurship journals, including the *Academy of Management Journal*, *Academy of Management Discoveries*, *Journal of Business Venturing* and the *Journal of Business Ethics*. Dr. Haugh is currently leading research projects into re-imagining churches as community assets for the common good, and the historical and institutional influences on community enterprise