Network Studies & Societal Challenges Summer Workshop, Venice, July 8-10, 2024

The Network Organization, Innovation, and Strategy research center at the Venice School of Management, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice is proud to organize its inaugural College Workshop on Network Studies and Societal Challenges. The goal of this workshop is to spark an interdisciplinary conversation on how a network governance approach can aid in describing, studying, and tackling societal challenges. We invite young scholars interested in this perspective to submit short papers and research proposals.

Contemporary social and economic dynamics are characterized by high levels of interdependence among different individuals, organizations, and contexts. Flexible and innovative governance approaches, therefore, are becoming ever more needed for that complexity. Networks, which encompass interorganizational collaborations, public-private partnerships, and other forms of coordination among diverse actors, have gained the attention of scholars and policymakers in recent decades as crucial tools for addressing complex social, economic, and environmental challenges. This summer workshop aims to provide a deep understanding of network governance, exploring theories, tools, and practices for effectively managing complex networks. This will be facilitated by the presence of leading scholars in the field who have explored the significance of networks as tools in various application domains.

Who can apply?

The workshop intends to engage early-stage PhD students from various disciplines (management, economics, humanities, political science, sociology etc.) about the unique dynamics of such networks.

Attendants may apply as "auditors" and attend the lecture sessions, or as "participants" who submit a short paper or research proposal (max. 3000 words) to be discussed during the hands-on sessions, receiving high-quality feedback from the invited speakers and their peers.

Why should you attend?

- Interactive Hands-on Workshop where you can get feedback
- Frontal Sessions with Leading Scholars
- Networking Opportunities
- An opportunity to pitch your research

Invited Speakers

Prof. Patrick Kenis | Tilburg University
Prof. Elisabeth Müller | Bundeswehr University Munich
Prof. Leon Oerlemans | Tilburg University
Prof. Elisa Operti | ESSEC Business School
Prof. Jill Purdy | Milgard School of Business
Prof. Francesco Zirpoli | Venice School of Management
How to apply?

Applications should be sent to nois.workshop@unive.it by 30th April (17:00 CET) with the email subject set as "NOIS college workshop application". Applications should contain:

1. either a research proposal or a short paper (max. 3000 words, including references, appendices & other material);
2. and a one-page motivation letter.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Contemporary grand challenges in society (climate change, social inclusion and cohesion, environmental justice…)
- Governance of organizational networks
- Institutions and network impact
- Inter-organizational networks and collective learning and action
- Multi-level organizational networks
- Social innovation and networked solutions
- Network evolution and adaptation in complex environments
- Cross-sector collaboration and network effectiveness
- Networks and public governance
- Network leadership and coalition building
- Social capital, network resilience and social change
- Network influence on decision-making and policy formulation
- Ethical considerations in network research and practice

Deadline for registration

- Registration open until 30th April (17:00 CET)
- Acceptance will be notified by 10th May
- Accepted students need to confirm by 15th May

Kind regards,

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Emin Altun