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PRESS RELEASE

2014- International Cross Sector Social Interactions Symposia Series
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4th International Symposium on Cross Sector Social Interactions (CSSI),
29-30 May 2014 Suffolk University Boston, USA:
Innovative Collaboration for a Complex World: Reaching Across Institutional Divides

The ‘Centre for Innovation and Change Leadership’ at Suffolk University is hosting the bi-annual symposium on Cross Sector Social Interactions (CSSI), 29-30 May. Dr. Carlos Rufin and Dr. Miguel Rivera-Santos, Co-programme Symposium Chairs have prepared a cutting edge programme focusing on: ‘Innovative Collaboration for a Complex World: Reaching Across Institutional Divides’. Professor Carlos Rufin, commented: “We are looking forward to a very exciting Symposium at Suffolk University. Boston is an innovation hub along many dimensions, from advanced technologies to public policies, and at the core of these initiatives is the collaboration across the traditional boundaries of business, government, academia, and nonprofits. At Suffolk, we are very much part of Boston’s cross-sector innovation networks, and as such this Symposium is an integral part of our interest in learning more about and promoting cross-sector interactions. We are thus very pleased to host this event.”

One of the symposium sessions will address the multiple institutional divides between companies in the extractive industries (oil, mining, gas, dredging, quarrying) and local communities. Institutional divides often cause extreme polarisation of issues leading to complete communication break-down. Hence, discussing how to avoid fragmentation in the early stages of cross sector social interactions will allow for moving beyond constrains and possibly achieving innovative collaboration. The panel of experienced academics and practitioners will aim to unpack collaborative innovation in regions where institutional divides are pronounced, in an industry with inherent problems that cause concern to local communities, national governments and global stakeholders, and where complex problems intensify the need for innovation. Among the speakers of the 4th CSSI Symposium are: Prof. Kasturi Rangan of Harvard Business School (key-note speaker of the Symposium), Mark Camp, Deputy Executive Director, Cultural Survival; Prof. Ans Kolk of the University of Amsterdam; Steve Waddell, Ecosystems Labs; representative from Teck Resources Limited in addition to a host of other academics and practitioners from around the world.

Prof. Andy Crane, the Symposium’s Chair commented: “The fourth international CSSI symposium comes at a critical time when cross-sector thinking is finally making it into the mainstream. It promises to bring deep insights and research-based evidence to the kind of questions that are top of mind for practitioner and policy makers everywhere: what kind of collaborative innovations are necessary to solve society’s most complex problems, and how can we organize to deliver them?”

For the first time the CSSI Symposium organises a Doctoral Symposium for the young scholars in the field, sponsored by the Annual Review of Social Partnerships (ARSP), on the 28th May, providing the opportunity to PhD students to present their research and receive comments from leading researchers in the field.

There are two awards associated with the CSSI Symposium: The Lifetime Achievement Award in Collaboration Research, sponsored by the Partnerships Resource Centre at Rotterdam School of Management (RSM) of Erasmus University, The Netherlands; and the Routledge Best Paper Award in Partnership Research.
The CSSI Symposia Series received this year the support of the CSRwire, the specialised digital media platform covering internationally the latest news, views and reports in corporate social responsibility (CSR) and sustainability. CSRwire as the Media Partner of the CSSI Symposium will play an important role in communicating widely information about the CSSI Symposium around the world in order to inform researchers and practitioners in this field about the research findings that will be presented at the symposium.

For more information about the 4th International CSSI symposium, including the full list speakers, please visit http://www.suffolk.edu/business/departments/18014.php

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THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR INTEREST

Notes to editors
For information about the 4th International CSSI Symposium, please contact: Ms. Teri Malionek, Director of Marketing & Communications, University of Suffolk, Boston, email address: TMalionek@suffolk.edu Telephone number: +1 617-573-8631

For information about the LTA Award in Collaboration Research and for interviews with Prof. Waddock please contact: Dr. May Seitanidi, Senior Lecturer in Strategy, Kent Business School & International CSSI Symposia Coordinator email address: mmayseitanidi@yahoo.com

More information about the Sponsor of the LTA Award in Collaboration Research ‘The Partnerships Resource Centre’, Erasmus University is available from: http://www.partnershipsresourcecentre.org/

Symposium Programme Co-Chairs:
Carlos Rufin - Associate Professor of International Business, Suffolk University (USA), crufin@suffolk.edu
Miguel Rivera-Santos – Associate Professor of Strategy and International Business, EMLYON Business School (France) and Babson College (USA), mrivera@babson.edu

Organizing Committee: Rob Van Tulder - Programme Chair 2012; Andrew Crane - Symposium Chair 2014 & Programme Chair 2016; James Austin - Recipient of 1st LTA Award; May Seitanidi - Symposia Co-ordinator

Accompanying documents:
4th International CSSI Symposium Call for Papers & Programme