



CASC
Canadian Association for
Studies in Co-operation

ACÉC
L'Association Canadienne
pour les Études sur la
Coopération



Spring Newsletter 2020

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President's Report

Judith Harris



Those who study co-operatives and community development are aware that it's in times of loss and disruption that the value and power of people coming together becomes clear. At times like this, it's important to sit back and see what is revealed—it's a time of clarity.

Co-op researchers and practitioners are reporting on the response of the co-op sector to the COVID-19 pandemic. In a recent column in *The Conversation*, Marcelo Vieta and Fiona Duguid called attention to co-ops that have led the way in implementing safety policies for employees and credit unions that quickly took action on loan deferments and other provisions to support their members. CASC has initiated a social media strategy on Twitter to promote the response of co-ops. We have proposed the hashtag #CoopsvsCovid to facilitate the sharing of stories that demonstrate the co-op difference.

The CASC conference team led by Simon Berge (University of Winnipeg), had already invested plenty of meeting and organizational time into the

2020 gathering at the Congress in London when it became clear to everyone that in-person meetings would not be feasible. CASC reluctantly cancelled the conference and the Federation considered on-line options but eventually cancelled Congress for 2020 and committed to refunding all registrations. ANSER, our traditional partner for the meetings, and other associations, are continuing independently with virtual conferences. Thanks go to our Conference planning team—Simon, Derya, Esther, Fiona, Isobel, and Marcelo—for their work.

There is much research and collaborative activity to report despite the restrictions on face-to-face meetings. CASC is supporting ACE and CMC in their new initiative—the Co-operation Virtual Institutes (CVI)—which will offer a number of free webinars beginning in May to provide co-operators with opportunities for training and exchange.

In December a special issue of the *Review of International Co-operation*, edited by Sara, Isobel, Judith, Fiona, and Derya, included peer-reviewed, original research papers addressing the theme, “Co-operative Strength in Diversity: Voices, Governance, and Engagement.” A special issue of the *International Journal of Co-operative Accounting and Management* published in February and edited by Darryl, Derya, Isobel, and Judith featured articles on the topic of Cooperative Research and Education programs at Cape Breton, St. Mary's, IRECUS, University of Winnipeg, and Saskatchewan's Centre for the Study of Co-operatives. Marcelo Vieta was featured on Each 4 All radio station and interviewed by board member Vesta on March 31.

The Board would like to express its appreciation to Fiona Duguid for capably leading the association for the past four years. Fiona brought wonderful energy to meetings and ensured that everyone was well informed and well connected to the co-op sector in Canada and internationally. Thanks Fiona!

Vesta Sahatciu takes on the position of Vice President from outgoing Derya Tarhan—thanks Derya—and Isobel Findlay will continue as Secretary-Treasurer with the support of Esther Awotwe.

Recently, we checked back in the history of CASC. The Association has been in existence since 1982, hosting the inaugural conference at the Learned's at the University of Guelph in 1984. Based on its strong membership base, we look forward to continuing to promote the study of co-operatives and collaboration between researchers and practitioners. All the best to you and your colleagues and particularly to families and communities in Nova Scotia.



CASC/ACÉC COVID-19 Conference/Membership Update

Isobel M. Findlay



In light of the ongoing health crisis and decision to cancel the CASC conference with Congress 2020 in London, ON, the CASC board has made these decisions:

- CASC Memberships for 2019-2020 will be extended for one year
- All those already registered for Congress 2020 should have received refunds including CASC membership/registration fee
- The CASC AGM will be re-scheduled to the fall 2020

Once it becomes clear how and when we might meet, you will receive notice of the AGM one month in advance. All members in good standing are eligible to participate and vote.

Social Media Strategy

Although much has been cancelled or delayed in recent weeks, as you will see in the President's Report and elsewhere in the Newsletter profiles and updates, CASC and its members have remained

busy engaging Canada's co-operative sector (and beyond) in activities including a coordinated social media strategy to promote the response of co-ops to the on-going crisis induced by the COVID-19 virus. The purpose of the strategy is to illustrate the "co-op difference" by highlighting the concerns and innovations reflected in the responses by co-ops to the various impacts of the crisis on their members and the broader community.

Join in on the Twitter trend! If you have stories of how you're collaborating with other co-ops, or how your co-op community is responding to crisis during the pandemic, in ways large or small, share your story on Twitter using [#CoopsVSCovid](#) and [#CoopSolution](#).
[See an example in action here!](#)

Virtual Meeting Places

Check out the Canadian Centre for the Study of Co-operatives' (CCSC) *Co-operatives in a Time of Crisis* online conversation series featuring CCSC fellows and personnel and sector leaders exploring the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Canadian co-operatives, large and small, and how co-ops, in turn, are making use of their co-operative structure to better serve their members during this time.

Watch the first series featuring credit union leaders here:

<https://www.usaskstudies.coop/public-talks/co-operatives-in-a-time-of-crisis-conversation-series.php#RegulatoryandPolicyPerspectives>

And connect virtually with the upcoming Co-operation Virtual Institutes (CVI)—a collaboration with ACE and CMC (both of whom also cancelled their congresses) that will offer free webinars to provide co-operators with opportunities for training and exchange. ACE webinars (75 mins. each) from June 15-24 will address these topics:

- 1) The challenges posed by the current health and economic crisis for co-operatives.
- 2) How the co-operative sector better position the co-op business model and values as an effective model for sustainable recovery of local, national, and global economies.

Online registration opens in May. Watch for notices on the CASC, ACE, and CMC websites and social media.

Journal special issues and other publications

If reading is your thing, then check out the *Conversation* article by Marcelo Vieta and Fiona Duguid on Canada's co-operatives: Helping communities during and after the coronavirus:

<https://theconversation.com/canadas-co-operatives-helping-communities-during-and-after-the-coronavirus-135477>

Other CASC initiatives include the December 2019 special issue of the *Review of International Co-operation* and the February 2020 special issue of the *International Journal of Co-operative Accounting and Management*. Click on the links below to access:

<https://ccr.ica.coop/en/media/library/review-international-cooperation-2019>

https://smu.ca/webfiles/IJCAMVol3No1_update.pdf

The *Journal of Co-operative Studies* is a peer-reviewed international journal published by the UK Society for Co-operative Studies in collaboration with CASC and the [Irish Society for Co-operative Studies](#). You can access its most recent issue here:

<https://ukscs.coop/journals/journal-of-co-operative-studies-vol-51-no-2-no-153-autumn/>

Watch for a forthcoming special issue of the *Journal of Co-operative Studies* on Co-operative Higher Education, edited by Claude-André Guillotte, CASC board member; professor, School of Management, University of Sherbrooke; and director, IRECUS.

In partnership with the ICA, CASC board members are preparing a call for papers for a special issue of the *Review of International Co-operation* on our 2020 Congress theme **Bridging Divides: Promoting Economic, Social, and Cultural Democracy**. Those who submitted abstracts this year and others, please consider responding to the upcoming call.

Ian MacPherson Legacy Fund

Preparing for future in-person gatherings, consider donating to the fund, established by a partnership of CASC, CMC, and the Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada (CDF), to help build Ian MacPherson's legacy by providing support to students and young scholars in post-secondary education participating in co-operative research events and sector gatherings.

You will be benefitting the development of co-operative studies, and the co-operative movement at large. To donate, click here:

<https://www.gifttool.com/donations/Donate?ID=2032&AID=1983>

2019 recipients of MacPherson Legacy funding:

- Leanne Unruh (York University)
- Lisa Michajluk (University of Toronto)
- Esther Awotwe (University of Saskatchewan)
- Josh Noble (University of Saskatchewan)
- Vesta Sahatciu (Vancouver Co-op Radio)



Research Profile



Judith Harris
Department of Urban & Inner-City Studies
University of Winnipeg

Dr. Judith Harris has an interdisciplinary background in the areas of international development, economics, and urban and regional planning. Since 2014, she has taught university courses at the Women's Correctional Centre and at Stony Mountain Institute through the Walls-to-Bridges Program. Judith is a member of the Walls to Bridges research team at the University of Winnipeg, a collective of faculty, practitioners, and students. She sits on the Board of the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation.

Beyond institutions that discipline & punish: Linking co-op employment and education to reduced recidivism

In this brief paper, I would like to highlight some connections between on-going research on social co-operatives and prison employment at the University of Strathclyde and current research and prison education conducted by a partnership of post-secondary institutions and community partners

in Winnipeg, MB. Dr. Beth Weaver is a principal investigator with Co-producing Desistance, an international social economy network. I recently gave a presentation to academics and practitioners involved in the research.

Since 2015 I have been teaching incarcerated men and women about co-operatives—a demonstration of the power of community values of reciprocity, mutuality, sufficiency and pooling of resources. There are two main drivers behind Canada's Walls to Bridges (W2B) and the American Inside Out (I-O) prison education programs. Co-learning inside the prison walls for inside (incarcerated) and outside (campus-enrolled) students expands understanding of structural causes of poverty and a racialized prison population. The W2B/I-O pedagogy moves education from banking knowledge to continuous learning and is transformational and conscientizing for students and instructors alike.

Simone Davis and Shoshana Pollock brought the I-O program to Ontario. Davis (2018) observed that “the sheer fact of a project taking place in the marginal place between two contexts gives all participants—students, faculty, community participants and hosts—the opportunity for meta-reflection on the institutional logics that construct and constrain our perspectives so acutely” (p. 219). The institutional logics of the university, the correctional facility, and the dominant socio-economic system are challenged in focused discussion in our community and co-op classes.

In Manitoba, our three-year SSHRC Partnership Development Grant has provided an opportunity for academics and practitioners to collaborate in the development of a Manitoba-based Centre for Prison Education and Research.

We aim to evaluate the impact of W2B Education and to improve communication and collaboration among organizations that provide vital support for people in prison and those who are transitioning from prison.

In November 2019, I took the opportunity to visit the University of Strathclyde to learn more about Co-producing Justice. Scotland is a leader in social enterprise development, having established over 5,000 enterprises that employ 112, 409 people guided by a voluntary Code of Practice. The City of Glasgow itself, in 2012, announced a commitment to “becoming a co-operative city”. Glasgow’s social enterprise and social co-op community, including the Warden of Barlinnie Prison, were represented at my presentation on the prison course on Community and Co-operative Alternatives and our W2B education and social co-op program. I hoped to bring back to our collective lessons from the Glasgow research on economic alternatives for those who face barriers to employment. Both the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) and the Scottish Government have “embraced the potential of partnerships with third sector and commercial organizations as a means of improving employment and vocational training within prisons” (Piacentini, Weaver, & Jardine 2018, p. 14).

Piacentini, Weaver, & Jardine (2018) identify the various rationales for prison employment: an additional punishment; a tool for rehabilitation; a strategy for reducing prison upkeep and maintenance costs; or simply a way to pass time. The literature confirms that there is an association between unemployment and re-offending (p. 1). On the topic of employment and prison education or training and desistance, the authors note that there is a lack of qualitative evidence proving the effectiveness of these initiatives. Nevertheless, it is generally accepted that prison employment has the potential “to foster feelings of citizenship, wellbeing and inclusion” (p. 5).

Both the Scottish Government and the SPS in 2014 called for reform and modernization of prison work that often involves low-skilled tasks; contributes to running the institution (ex. laundry); are irrelevant to the outside labour market; focuses on already saturated labour markets; and lacks connection to the interests of the prisoner and the needs of local employers (p. 5). At our meeting, our discussion highlighted these problems.

Lessons from interviews conducted under Weaver’s Co-producing Desistance research will contribute in important ways to understanding the continuity that leads to reduced recidivism and the role of our collaborative W2B research on education and transition in Manitoba. What follows is a brief description of our work over the past six years on social enterprise and transition, our education program at the Women’s Correctional Centre (WCC) and at Stony Mountain Institute (SMI) for men, and guidance we can take from the study of employment and training at Strathclyde. I begin by presenting the results of a focus group at the University of Winnipeg on factors affecting development of social enterprise and co-operatives for people exiting prison.

Social enterprise and co-operatives to support transition from prison

In 2019, there were 811 social enterprises in Glasgow, a city of just over 611,000. A 2010 survey of social enterprises in Manitoba where there is twice the population, received responses from 125 social enterprises. Manitoba lacks the federal and local government support, but Winnipeg has had a social enterprise strategy in place since 2015 and resources for new enterprises are growing.

Our W2B collective assembled practitioners in Winnipeg's social economy community for a focus group on six topics central to the success of mounting a social enterprise for women transitioning from the Women's Correctional Centre in Headingly, Manitoba. Representatives of four social enterprises and one co-operative participated in our focus group convened at the University of Winnipeg: Inner-City Renovations, a construction company; BUILD, a non-profit contractor and a training program for people who face barriers to employment; Diversity Foods, which delivers nutritious, locally sourced food to the University of Winnipeg; Eagle Women's Lodge Catering collective, established at Eagle Women's Lodge, a secure, 30 apartment residence for women transitioning from prison; and FrontStep Research one of the first multi-stakeholder co-operatives in Winnipeg, where inner-city residents provided a range of data collection services.

This discussion has provided a useful checklist for new social enterprises and co-operatives. These guidelines may have a gender bias but men transitioning from prison also encounter many of the critical challenges faced by women.

Figure 1: A Check List for Social Enterprise for Women Transitioning from Prison

- **Readiness:** is the individual ready to engage, take risk, showing confidence & social stability? Is his/her network ready?
- **Skills and Training:** has the individual acquired relevant skills? Are needed skills easily taught? How can the training environment become a safe one for vulnerable individuals?

- **Discrimination:** Will forms of discrimination/stereotype/biases affect potential workers? If so, how is safety maintained – real and perceived?
- **Scale of Operations:** How is a threshold level of efficiency achieved? What percentage of workers to mentors/helpers is needed? What is the trade-off between size and democratic participation?
- **Visibility/Mission:** Should the enterprise lead with its mission? Does the benefit outweigh possible stigma/labeling?
- **Demand/Marketing:** The successful enterprise must be aware of potential market demand—can you provide the good/service at a price point accessible to clients?

Defending rights to citizenship and education

The defence of citizenship and rights in prison as central to reform is expressed in the principle that people are sent to prison as punishment, not for punishment. Too often institutions consider citizenship something that incarcerated men and women must work towards rather than an unconditional state (Piacentini, Weaver, & Jardine 2018, p. 8). The United Nations *General Comment No. 13* of International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights states that education is a basic human right and a means of realizing other rights. Even so, students in our W2B Program relate the struggle they go through at some correctional facilities just to be granted approval to complete high school. Resources at Provincial facilities are especially scarce.

Weaver's (2016) study of the role of social co-operatives and their impact on desistance draws on interviews with workers in prison co-operatives in Italy and Sweden.

She categorizes the ways in which co-op workers derive meaning and benefits from work.

1. Instrumental incentives and outcomes – serving cultural norms, constraints and policies.
2. Social Relations – feeling normal, less isolated.
3. Social image and identity – showing yourself, society and your family who you are.
4. Self-esteem – a sense of satisfaction, achievement and self-esteem.
5. Active citizenship – manifesting active citizenship and human rights.

In reflecting on these benefits, it became clear to me that these are equally important considerations for any program that provides prison education—education that, “if it arouses curiosity, strengthens initiative and sets up desires and purposes, will carry a person over dead places in the future” (Dewey, 1938, p. 38).

Co-producing education, public services & social co-operatives through the prison gate

The University of Winnipeg is a liberal arts university that aims to provide students with an appreciation for human, aesthetic and environmental values. Although technical skills are often seen as more practical and valuable, liberal arts education fosters leadership, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills that can be applied to “real work” in an ever-changing job market. As we grow in our understanding of each other, our inside and outside scholars share a common interest in social justice and a commitment to giving back. Our liberal arts courses, at their best, provide all students with the tools to support a more just society.

From discussions with inside students at SMI and from group proposals for possible co-ops, the social

co-operatives described below might hold some promise inside the prison and would have relevance through the prison gate. These co-op concepts may be limited in that they may reflect student views on what might be acceptable in the institution. Yet, in the classes offered at SMI and at the WCC, these enterprises also build on interests and abilities that are revealed year after year. See Figure 2.

Weaver applies the concept of co-production (Ostrom, 1999; Pestoff, 2012) to services that support incarcerated men and women, emphasizing the importance of innovative partnerships that are found in the prison and extend through the prison gate. The notion of co-production is defined as “the mix of activities that both public service agents and citizens contribute to the provision of public services. The former are involved as professionals, or ‘regular producers’, while ‘citizen production’ is based on voluntary efforts by individuals and groups to enhance the quality and quantity of the services they use” (Parks et al quoted in Verschuere, Brandsen, & Pestoff, 2012, p. 1081).

The challenges faced by social enterprises established in prisons provide a critical view of education and training in the Canadian prison system. Our Partnership Development Grant presents an opportunity to co-produce education as well as other services.

Figure 2: Co-production & social co-operatives through SMI's prison gate

<p>GARDENING & MAKING FUSION SAUCES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SMI students in Minimum currently growing vegetables and making sauces. ● Access to Gardens. ● Partnering* with Diversity Foods & Food Matters Manitoba ● Opportunity for Food Truck catering post-release ● Training in food handling needed <p>*Diversity Foods delivers nutritious, locally sourced food to the University of Winnipeg; Food Matters Manitoba promoting a food Secure Manitoba</p> <p>PUBLISHING ART/STORY/POETRY ZINE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Artists in our first cohort as editorial board ● Connections with Canzine & Broken Pencil ● Silk Screening supplies & experience ● Partnering with Martha Street Printing Studio ● Walls to Bridges is a member of the Studio ● Partnering* with the Prison Libraries Committee ● U of W Students hired to help establish an editorial board and facilitate silk screening <p>* Prison Libraries Committee is a volunteer group that provides collections, programming, and library awareness for incarcerated and reintegrating men and women in the justice system.</p>	<p>MANUFACTURING GARDEN FURNITURE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Developing carpentry skills ● Partnering* with Imaginability & BUILD ● Opportunity to transition into BUILD ● Training from BUILD and Manitoba Green Retrofit <p>*Imaginability manufactures Garden Furniture; BUILD trains people facing barriers for work in construction</p> <p>SILK SCREENING T-SHIRTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Building on skills of artists at SMI ● Student Cohort with Silk Screening experience ● W2B supplies & membership at Martha Street Studio ● Partnering* with Red Rising and Martha Street Studio <p>* Red Rising Magazine is a non-profit, volunteer-run initiative published by the Red Rising Collective</p>
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A Final Word

Weaver highlights the value added by social co-operatives beyond what is accomplished under existing employment structures. Through our university-community partnerships we plan to provide the continuity and meaning that the Co-producing Justice network emphasises. Our efforts are supported by a liberal arts education and the development of co-op skills, through a Community and Co-ops course, a Community Development and Co-op Management (Faculty of Business), and through the co-production of supports that emerge from Winnipeg's proposed Centre for Prison Education and Research.

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2020 CASC/ACÉC Scholarship Winners



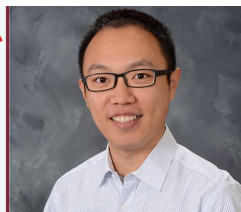
Daniel P. Brunette
Director, Advocacy and Partnerships,
Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada (CMC)

Dan Brunette, Director, Advocacy and Partnerships, CMC announces the 2020 CASC/ACÉC Scholarship Winners.

Amy and Tim Dauphinee Scholarship (\$3,000)

The [Ontario Credit Union Foundation](#) established the Amy and Tim Dauphinee Scholarship in recognition of the outstanding contribution these two leaders made to the development of the credit union movement and the Ontario Credit Union Foundation. They both had a strong commitment to co-operatives, education and research. Tim was a scientist with the National Research Council and Amy was a school principal and the first woman elected to the board of directors of Credit Union Central of Ontario and served for 22 years. Both also served as directors for a number of organizations.

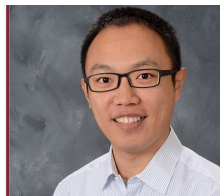
The scholarship is available to graduate students only.



Recipient: Qian Wan
Doctoral candidate, Agricultural Economics
University of Saskatchewan

Bourse Amy and Tim Dauphinee (3 000 \$)

La [Ontario Credit Union Foundation](#) a créé la bourse Amy and Tim Dauphinee pour souligner la contribution exceptionnelle de ces deux pionniers au développement du mouvement des coopératives financières et de la *Ontario Credit Union Foundation*. Les deux ont fait preuve d'un profond engagement envers les coopératives, l'éducation et la recherche. Tim était un chercheur au Conseil national de recherches et Amy était une directrice d'école et fut la première femme élue au conseil d'administration de la Credit Union Central of Ontario et elle y a siégé pendant 22 ans. Les deux ont été aussi membres des conseils d'administration de plusieurs organismes. La bourse est offerte aux étudiantes inscrites aux études supérieures.



Récipiendaire : Qian Wan
Candidat au doctorat, Économie agricole
University of Saskatchewan

Research: Patron-client relationship and development of rural co-operatives in China. Combining economic and mathematic modelling, comparative analysis, and qualitative case study, the researcher will examine how social relationships in rural China are playing important roles in the current boom of rural co-operatives.

Alexander Fraser Laidlaw Fellowship (\$1,000)

The Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada established the Laidlaw Fellowship to honour Dr. Alexander Fraser Laidlaw, the father of the non-profit co-operative housing movement in Canada. An outstanding Canadian adult educator and coop leader, Dr. Laidlaw served the cause of the co-operative movement for over 40 years. Author of Co-operatives in the Year 2000, Laidlaw fostered the social purpose of the co-op movement while always advocating sound business methods for co-operative organizations. The scholarship is available to graduate students only.



Recipient: Wendy Reid Fairhurst
MBA candidate, Social enterprise and entrepreneurship
Memorial University of Newfoundland

Research: How can cohousing, as a modern and beneficial housing type, be made more affordable and more widely adopted across Canada using social enterprise research, innovation and tools?

Lemaire Co-operative Studies Award (\$1,000 each)

Louis Lemaire, a co-operative pioneer, dedicated much of his life to organizing co-operatives in Saskatchewan and willed part of his estate to the Co-operative College of Canada (now Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada) to support co-operative studies.

Recherche : Le clientélisme et le développement des coopératives rurales en Chine. En combinant la modélisation économique et mathématique, des analyses comparatives et des études de cas qualitatives, le chercheur examinera comment les relations sociales dans la Chine rurale jouent un rôle prépondérant dans l'importante croissance des coopératives rurales.

Bourse Alexander Fraser Laidlaw (1 000 \$)

La Fédération de l'habitation coopérative du Canada a créé la bourse de recherche Laidlaw en l'honneur du Alexander Fraser Laidlaw Ph. D., le père de l'habitation coopérative sans but lucratif au Canada. Éducateur et dirigeant coopératif hors pair, M. Laidlaw a milité dans le mouvement coopératif pendant plus de 40 ans. Auteur de l'ouvrage Co-operatives in the Year 2000, il a cherché à promouvoir l'objectif social du mouvement coopératif, tout en préconisant de saines méthodes de gestion pour les organisations coopératives. La bourse est offerte aux étudiantes inscrites aux études supérieures.



Récipiendaire : Wendy Reid Fairhurst
Candidate au MBA, entreprise sociales et entrepreneurship
Memorial University of Newfoundland

Recherche : Comment est-ce que le cologement, en tant qu'option de logement moderne et bénéfique, peut être rendu plus abordable et plus largement adopté à travers le Canada en utilisant la recherche et les outils d'innovation et d'entreprenariat social?

Bourse Lemaire en études sur la coopération (1000 \$ chacune)

Louis Lemaire, un pionnier dans le domaine coopératif, a consacré une bonne partie de sa vie à organiser des coopératives en Saskatchewan et a fait don d'une partie de sa succession au Co-operative College of Canada

Available to both undergraduate and graduate students, the Lemaire awards are intended to encourage students to undertake studies and research which will help them contribute to the development of co-operatives or to support students who have been involved in co-operatives, preferably in leadership positions as volunteers or employees. The scholarship is available to both undergraduates and graduates.



Recipient: Louis Cousin
PhD candidate, Administration and Management
Université Laval

Research : A study of the means implemented by umbrella organizations of co-operatives, such as federations, to stimulate the emergence and development of businesses in the digital economy.



Recipient: Erik Sagmoen
McMaster University
M.A. candidate, Labour Studies

Research: Glitter Bean Café - The conversion of a failing business into a successful community space and the role of a union in a worker co-operative.

(maintenant Coopératives et mutuelles Canada) pour appuyer les études sur le mouvement coopératif. Offertes aux étudiants des 1er, 2e et 3e cycles, les bourses Lemaire visent à encourager les candidats à entreprendre des études et des recherches qui les aideront à contribuer au développement du secteur coopératif au Canada ou ailleurs. Ces bourses visent également à appuyer les étudiants qui travaillent au sein de coopératives, de préférence dans des positions de leadership, que ce soit comme bénévoles ou employés



Récipiendaire : Louis Cousin
Candidat au doctorat en science de l'administration –
management Université Laval

Recherche : Étudier les moyens mis en œuvre par les organisations faitières de coopératives (ex. fédérations) à stimuler l'émergence et le développement d'entreprises dans l'économie numérique.



Récipiendaire : Erik Sagmoen
McMaster University
Candidat à la maîtrise, Étude en relations industrielles et
syndicales

Recherche: *Glitter Bean Café* - La conversion d'une entreprise en perte de vitesse en un espace communautaire prospère et le rôle d'un syndicat dans une coopérative de travail.

The Scholarship Committee:

- Dr. [Mitch Diamantopoulos](#) (University of Regina)
- Dr. [Judith Harris](#) (University of Winnipeg)
- Dr. [Daphne Rixon](#) (St-Mary's University)
- [Myriam Michaud](#) (PhD Candidate - *Université Laval* and a former recipient)

In addition to the monetary awards, recipients of scholarships are awarded a one-year membership in the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC) as well as free registration to the 2021 CASC conference.

Le comité des bourses :

- Mitch Diamantopoulos PhD (University of Regina)
- Judith Harris PhD (University of Winnipeg)
- Daphne Rixon PhD (St-Mary's University)
- Myriam Michaud (Candidate au doctorat - Université Laval et ancienne récipiendaire)

En plus d'une bourse en argent, chaque lauréat recevra une adhésion gratuite d'un an à l'Association canadienne pour les études sur la coopération (ACÉC) et une inscription gratuite à la conférence de l'ACÉC en 2021.

<https://canada.coop>



Profiling CASC Scholarship Winners



Mitch Diamantopoulos received CASC's Alexander Laidlaw Fellowship (2005) and Lemaire Co-operative Studies Award (2006) as a PhD student. He helped found the worker co-op that publishes Prairie Dog Magazine (where he worked from 1993-2002) and Saskatoon's Planet S Magazine (where he worked from 2002-2007). He's now an Associate Professor of Journalism at the University of Regina, a Research Fellow with the University of Saskatchewan's Canadian Centre for the Study of Co-operatives, and a member of the CASC board. His recent research focuses on how co-operators are responding to the deepening crisis of journalism and democracy.

Long ago I was lucky to receive the Alexander Laidlaw Fellowship (2005) and the Lemaire Co-operative Studies Award (2006). A working parent, I had three-year-old twins at home. Completing my PhD while also caring for my aging parents wasn't easy. These awards provided important support.

Over the years, these seed grants have helped dozens of emerging co-operative researchers with similar stories. CASC awards provided us all with cash, movement connection, and recognition from

respected scholars. They also encouraged us to apply for larger awards. Not everyone is so lucky. In fact, 22–44 % of Canadian doctoral students don't complete their programs (Charbonneau, 2013). Of course, not all are pushed out by economic pressures. But many are.

Without the kind of support provided through CASC, even fewer would complete their studies. Academia would be a more cloistered preserve for the privileged few. It would be less responsive to the needs of the democratic many. Certainly, the study of co-operatives would suffer.

My dissertation analyzed the co-operative development gap separating Québec and Saskatchewan. I learned much about movement life-cycles and why some expand while others falter, stall, and degenerate. The theory of relativity it was not. But it was a good start.

That formative project also led me to publish widely on co-operative themes. These included Saskatoon's inner-city social economy; co-operative housing; co-operative education; worker co-operatives; the social movement approach to co-operative development; the link between early Saskatchewan co-operatives and the agrarian and socialist movements; the problem of movement degeneration; and the legacy of the co-operative press. CASC's early support helped make all that later work possible.

There's bad news...

Most recently, I've focused on a new research question: how can co-operators help solve the looming crisis of journalism and democracy?

Of course, it's not news that journalism is in crisis. Since the 2008 stock market crash, daily newspapers have been shedding staff, eliminating beats, bureaux, sections, and editions, ceasing print publication and even rolling up operations altogether. With the rise of the Google-Facebook Internet advertising duopoly, much of their revenue base never came back.

However, with journalism's decline, the value of fact, logic, and public engagement in democratic life is increasingly also in peril. As our newspapers got thinner and the content more centralized and captive to official sources and public relations, democracy's oxygen supply also began to thin. Public trust and democratic engagement withered. As the old adage has it, 'where journalism goes, there follows democracy'. Both now circle the existential drain.

The evidence of democratic mutation is all around us, as a new regime of post-journalism increasingly fills the vacuum of credible investigation—with the angry opinion of talk radio; the hyper-partisanship of Fox news; the faith-based fictions of evangelical broadcasting; the great wash of disinformation across social media channels; and the alt-right's online sub-culture of hate speech, white supremacy and misogyny. This is a period of both informational and democratic emergency.

As the great journalist and theorist Antonio Gramsci wrote in the context of Mussolini's Italy, "The crisis consists precisely in the fact that the old is dying and the new cannot be born; in this interregnum a great variety of morbid symptoms appear."

Clearly, the democratic task of re-inventing journalism is important in this post-truth-world, where an authoritarian, backlash populism now increasingly prevails. As the world plunges into recession and frustrations grow, the menace looms larger.

To fix what ails this democratic craft—and to heal what divides, confuses, and harms our communities—we need to assess how co-operative media alternatives can help. How can co-operators help independent journalism bring clarity, coherence, and democratic civility to the very difficult decade which looms ahead? In a post-Covid-19 world, this task of research and reconstruction will become more urgent.

... and there's good news

To rebuild corporate journalism's broken business model on democratic foundations, there's much to learn from the world's news co-operatives.

Consider the Berlin consumer co-op *Die Tageszeitung*, a left-green daily with a daily circulation of 60,000 and a newsroom of 140. *Taz* combines reader control of the business with worker self-management of the newsroom.

In addition to 50,000 paid subscribers to its print and digital editions, *Taz* has over 10,000 sustaining donors. Another 17,000 reader-owners have paid at least € 500 to join the co-op (about CDN\$ 760).



Averaging 100 pages per issue, it plays a leading role in the country's news culture, intellectual life, and policy debates.



Worker co-operatives with global reach include Britain's *New Internationalist* magazine and France's *Alternatives Économiques*. Published by an 18-person worker co-operative, *The New Internationalist* has built up a print circulation of 45,000 readers. In 2017, it expanded to include a class of reader-members. For 45 years, this co-op has shone award-winning light on development issues, scaling-up its reach well beyond British shores.

Alternatives Économiques is France's second most-read magazine. Founded as a worker co-operative in 1980, it's now jointly owned by its workers and readers. The full colour publication has 50 staff and a paid monthly circulation of 90,000 newsstand and subscriptions copies.

In Uruguay, worker co-operators run the country's second most important daily newspaper and the most important weekly magazine. Providing a distinct alternative to establishment opinion, *La Diaria* (The Daily) has particular appeal with younger readers. Similarly, *Brecha* (The Breach) has carved out an independent, progressive niche on Latin American affairs over three decades. Like *Alternatives Économiques* across the *Francophonie*, it's essential reading for the region's academics, intellectuals, and policy-makers.



Why have Canadian co-operators been so slow to penetrate the news sector, given its pivotal strategic significance? What can be learned from global exemplars of media innovation? What can be done to narrow this development gap in current conditions? These are the kinds of questions I've been asking lately.

From democratic crisis to media innovation

Movement history shows that from crisis often comes opportunity—with the right strategy, resources and leadership. With the investor-owned, advertising-driven business model for journalism broken, the democratic craft's foundations are being poured afresh. With membership overtaking advertising as an engine of sector growth, co-operative possibilities loom large. The media development paradigm is shifting.

Britain provides one example. Declaring that “the co-operative movement has a once-in-a-generation chance to connect to a world in need of greater co-operation,” recent years have seen the launch of new media co-ops including *The Bristol Cable*, Scotland's *The Ferret* and the conversion of *Positive News*. Cooperatives U.K. has led that charge (Boyle, 2012).

Similarly, Québec is making significant inroads. The 2019-20 co-operative conversion of the *Groupe Capitales Media* chain includes 6 dailies and a weekly. With the movement's financial backing, the workers of *Groupe Capitales Media* are spotlighting another development path beyond the corporate media monopoly's horizon.

In the wake of investor-propelled journalism's crisis lies an important chance to democratize media power. News co-ops can help media workers and their communities restore quality journalism and viewpoint diversity to news-poor communities. They can restore jobs and real independence to reporters and editors. And they can put the public interest where it belongs—at the centre of the journalistic enterprise.

But, like the U.K. and Québec cases, these fragile, emerging sectors in Canada will need movement support.

Putting news co-ops on the agenda in Canada

The potential to learn from exemplars of media innovation is great, the stakes are high and the hour late. For example, over 150 non-profit news outlets have launched across North America in recent years, their rapid growth driven by millions in corporate philanthropy. Yet, despite this emerging movement's emphasis on a membership-based model, the co-operative movement in English-speaking North America has been slow to keep pace with sector innovation.

We lack reliable measures of this rapidly emerging and diverse sector's scope.

However, co-operators lag far behind corporate media and foundation-driven efforts to use membership to reconstruct the news. One index lists 132 non-co-op news ventures (70 for-profit and 62 non-profit) versus only 15 co-op news outlets (11 for-profit and 4 non-profit co-ops). This slow start reflects the agility advantage afforded by investor and foundation cash. By contrast, co-operators work at the speed of democracy.

However, mutualism retains a natural advantage in membership-based entrepreneurship and has formidable movement networks and resources.

Looking ahead, there are many successful models to guide Canadian co-operators. Saskatchewan's Hullabaloo Publishing provides just one example that news co-ops work in the Canadian context. Despite the vicious beating it has taken in the post-2008 period, *Prairie Dog* has served Regina for 27 years. Saskatoon's *Planet S* has published for 18 years. Nationally recognized and award-winning, this worker co-op's city-papers have outlasted several investor-owned competitors in each market and sister papers across the Prairie region (including defunct alt-weeklies in Edmonton, Calgary, and Winnipeg).

Of course, there are limits to co-operative resilience. Hullabaloo may not survive the unfolding Covid-19 crisis. If it does, the path forward will be rocky. There are no guarantees, not in the present crisis nor in the post-pandemic economy.

Yet, as it restructures as a multi-stakeholder co-op to involve reader members, it continues to hold substantial promise. Before Covid-19 hit, the Friends of Prairie Dog had tripled their

reader-membership in their first year and sold out two fundraisers at a local brewpub. Both The Co-operators and the Canadian Worker Cooperative Federation provided important assistance for Hullabaloo's restructuring.



Like Friends of Le Devoir's support to that non-profit Québec daily, the Friends of Prairie Dog illustrates that communities value local, independent journalism enough to support it through this transition. The co-op movement and our research community can help.

Renewing old partnerships

One promising sign is that the labour movement is already playing a key role in advancing news co-operation. Like the 2009 worker buy-out of CHEK-TV, which rescued Victoria's Global TV station, a coalition led by the Chicago Federation of Labour took over the *Chicago Sun-Times* daily and its alternative weekly, *The Reader*, in 2017.

Similarly, many Argentine newspapers have been recuperated as worker co-operatives in recent decades. Both Québec's major trade union federations joined Desjardins in investing millions in *Groupe Capitales Média*'s conversion to worker co-operation.

In an age when the media is all-pervasive and every issue of major public importance is ultimately a media struggle, much rests on the democratic reconstruction of journalism—from ending poverty or corporate corruption to advancing action on climate change or other Sustainable Development Goals.

In this conjuncture of economic collapse, digital disruption and democratic crisis, Canadian co-operators have a unique opportunity to reassert their leadership, reach out to development partners and a new generation, and shift the culture. They can do all this by developing and strengthening the country's co-operative news sector.

You can reach Mitch at diaman1d@uregina.ca. His publications are cited here:

<https://www.uregina.ca/arts/journalism/faculty-staff/faculty/diamantopoulos-mitch.html>

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Update from the Canadian Centre for the Study of Co-operatives



Stan Yu
Research and Communications Coordinator

Introducing Stan Yu, CCSC's new Research and Communications Coordinator

The CCSC is excited to announce that Stan Yu has joined the Centre as our new Research and Communications Coordinator. Stan brings a wealth and diversity of experience from a variety of previous quantitative and qualitative research and program evaluation roles, and a deep pragmatic understanding of local community service co-operatives through his work with the Bridge City Bicycle Co-op, where he serves on the board and as chief writer for the co-operative's many successful funding applications.

Co-operatives in Times of Crisis Conversation Series

A graphic for the "Co-operatives in Times of Crisis Conversation Series". It features a blue background with a large, stylized dollar sign on the left and several blue, spiky virus-like shapes on the right. The title "CO-OPERATIVES IN TIMES OF CRISIS CONVERSATION SERIES" is written in yellow and white text. Below the title, a green box contains white text describing the series and listing speakers. At the bottom, it says "Available now on Youtube:" followed by a URL.

Co-operatives and credit unions are member- and community-focused organizations known for their resiliency. In this series of conversations, the Canadian Centre for the Study Co-operatives asks leaders in co-operatives, big and small, how they are making use of their co-operative structure to address the challenges posed by the COVID-19 crisis.

Speakers Include:

Andy Poprawa, Regulatory Expert and Advisor, and former Chief Executive Officer at the Deposit Insurance Corporation of Ontario (DICO)
Gary Rogers, former Vice President, Financial Policy, Credit Union Central of Canada (now Canadian Credit Union Association)
Jan Glassford, former Chief Financial Officer of Seneca Credit Union
Garth Manness, Chief Executive Officer of Credit Union Central of Manitoba
Rob Wellstood, Chief Executive Officer of Kwantlen Credit Union
Elvy Del Bianco, Cooperative Portfolio Manager, Community Business & Investment, Vandy Credit Union
Eric Dillon, Chief Executive Officer of Canoeus Credit Union
David Losler, Management Consultant and Financial Expert, and former Chief Financial Officer, UNI Financial Cooperation

Available now on Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/coopstudies>



As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact businesses across all sectors in Canada and beyond, the Canadian Centre for the Study Co-operatives is launching the “Co-operatives in Times of Crisis Conversation Series.”

This is a set of recorded conversations in which leaders of co-operatives, big and small, describe how they are making use of their co-operative structure to address the challenges posed by COVID-19.

Videos featuring the perspectives of credit union leaders are now available to watch on our Youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/coopstudies>

The Good Governance Matters Online Course



In partnership with Co-operatives First, the Centre is accepting enrolments for the **Good Governance Matters** open online course. This online course is designed for community leaders to learn what governance is, why it matters for co-operatives, and how to do it right. Ideas that will be explored in the course include how to get people to work well together in governance processes, creating a successful view of the future, and building and maintaining legitimacy. The course is free, and it begins on June 10. You can enroll at: <https://cooperativesfirst.com/governance/>.

We encourage all members of CASC to share this course with friends and colleagues who may be interested.

The 2020 MacPherson Talk is now available online



On February 11, 2020, the Centre hosted the 4th annual MacPherson Talk. This lecture honours the late Dr. Ian MacPherson, one of the leading lights of the international cooperative movement. This year, the MacPherson Talk featured Dr. Tim Waring, associate professor of social-ecological systems modeling at the Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions and the School of Economics at the University of Maine.

Dr. Waring's research focuses on how cooperation and culture determine social and environmental outcomes. Using economic experiments and agent-based simulations, he builds and tests evolutionary models of social and economic change to learn how sustainable behaviors and durable institutions arise and persist. Dr. Waring's talk was titled "The Role of Cooperation in the Evolution of Co-operatives" and consisted of a guided tour of the factors driving cooperation, investigating co-operatives from an evolutionary theoretical perspective.

The online video can be found via the following link:

<https://usaskstudies.coop/public-talks/archived-talks/video-the-macpherson-talks-the-role-of-cooperation-in-the-evolution-of-co-operatives.php>

New publications from the Centre

Two new papers by Marc-André Pigeon, director of CCSC, have been published as part of the Centre's Occasional Papers Series, and are now available online. The first, [*Chair Selection, Tenure, Evaluation, and Remuneration: A Co-operative Perspective*](#), utilizes the academic literature on governance to discuss what a co-operative should consider when deciding on board-chair selection, tenure, evaluation, and remuneration.

The second, [*Against the Grain: The Unusual Case of Saskatchewan's Credit Union Deposit Insurance Scheme*](#), underscores the remarkable success of Saskatchewan's deposit insurance scheme which, until recently, was led, directed, and effectively owned by the province's credit unions. Drawing on Ostrom's design principles around successful management of common-pool resources, the paper seeks to explain how the credit unions successfully managed the deposit insurance scheme even while most conventional economic accounts would have predicted failure because of moral hazard problems.

His research focuses on co-operative development in rural China, strategic business planning for co-operatives, food sharing networks in Aboriginal communities in Canada, and the co-op legal framework. In his lecture, Wan presented a simple theoretical model to shed light on why and when it makes sense to use the co-operative model in developing countries.

The online video can be found via the following link:

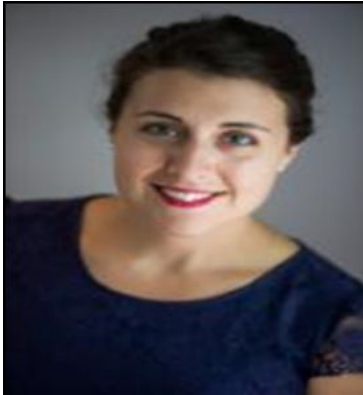
<https://usaskstudies.coop/public-talks/archived-talks/video-the-fredeeen-lecture-qian-wan.php>

The 2019 Fredeen Lecture now available online



On December 18, 2019, the Centre hosted a featured presentation from the 2018 Fredeen Scholarship recipient, Qian Wan. Wan is the Co-operative Development Specialist at Co-operative Development Foundation Canada (CDF) and a PhD candidate in Agricultural Economics at the University of Saskatchewan.

Update from St Mary's International Centre for Co-operative Management



Erin Hancock
Program Manager, Co-operative Management
Education
International Centre for Co-operative Management
Sobey School of Business
Saint Mary's University

Greetings from the International Centre for Co-operative Management!

We are excited to share some important developments with our Centre. There are many ways to get engaged.

- It's application season for our **Master's, Graduate Diploma and Certificate in Co-operative Management** programs designed for working professionals in co-operatives, credit unions, and mutuals. Our **online, part-time programs** range from 3 years, 20 and 10 months in duration. Join a global network of leading co-operative practitioners, educators, and academics and experience education in a co-operative learning environment. Deepen your understanding of the co-operative

business model and develop tools to maximize its impact and your leadership performance. Begin your application by May 31. Bursaries available. [Learn more.](#)

- The Centre is partnering with the **Social Enterprise World Forum** (June 2-4, 2021 in Halifax, NS) to deliver a **pre-conference research and practitioner symposium** at Saint Mary's University (May 31-June 1, 2021). The symposium aims to facilitate collaboration between academia and the social enterprise sector in order to increase impact of research knowledge dissemination on overall sectoral growth, innovation and impact. [Learn more.](#)
- The Centre is leading in a **multi-year research project on co-operative governance**. It investigates numerous examples of successful co-operatives that experiment with and/or fully embrace participatory governance beyond casting a vote, pushing back against a one-size fits all corporate governance model. We are seeking co-operative organizations, researchers, and other governance experts to explore participatory governance in co-operatives as part of this study. Contact: Sonja Novkovic <mailto:snovkovic@smu.ca>
- The Centre is hosting its second **International Co-operative Governance Symposium** (June 17-19, 2021) at Saint Mary's University. This participatory gathering of governance professionals, experts, and researchers will interrogate

governance models that maximize the benefit of the democratic, people-centred and jointly-owned nature of the co-operative model. [Learn more.](#)

- The Centre has recently launched a **Working Paper Series**. We publish open source research papers and reports in the field of co-operative management, economics and governance. We invite submissions including think pieces and work-in-progress pieces from our faculty and sector partners and the broader community of co-operative academics and practitioners. [Learn more.](#) Contact: Sonja Novkovic <mailto:snovkovic@smu.ca>
- **Canada Development Education** (CanadaDE) has been postponed from June 7-12, 2020 until May 16-20, 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. CanadaDE is an international credit union leadership program for which the World Council of Credit Unions provides certification. [Learn more.](#)
- Our **International Co-operative Study Tour** to Emilia-Romagna in October 25-November 5, 2020 has been cancelled. We will be offering a Co-operative Study Tour to Emilia-Romagna, Mondragón, Basque Country or another co-operative destination in October 2021 (TBC, Covid recovery pending). [Learn more.](#)
- Visit us at our website, managementstudies.coop, follow us on social media at @CoopMgmt or reach out directly at <mailto:cme@smu.ca>

Our Centre sends our thoughts to Canadian co-operators, their families and communities at this

time of great difficulty and uncertainty. Now, more than ever, we need the co-operative movement, equipped with strong co-operative leaders, to steer our economy in the direction of resilience, innovation, sustainability and justice. We are committed to supporting co-operators in their work to uplift their members and their communities. Through co-operation, we will get through this!

Regards,
Erin Hancock, Program Manager, Co-operative Management Education
& Rosa Poirier-Mckiggan, ICCM Program Assistant
MANAGEMENTSTUDIES.COOP
CME@SMU.CA



Des Nouvelles de l'IRECUS/ Update from IRECUS



*Anne-Marie Merrien
Doctoral Researcher, IRECUS*

At the end of 2019, the MBA students of the Université de Sherbrooke gave us a very stimulating challenge! Since teaching the co-operative and mutualist model was not part of their curriculum, the students expressed the wish that the IRECUS team develop and offer a course entirely devoted to this subject in the winter session of 2020. The support of our co-operative partners has allowed us to combine theoretical learning with numerous meetings of co-operators.



Caption: Session on collective takeover offered by Jean-Pascal Dumont of the Centre de transfert d'entreprise du Québec, held at the offices of Agropur, Coopérative de producteurs laitiers.

The research projects we are working on continue to progress. Last October, we were able to deliver our research report on the relationship between the practices of forest co-operatives in Quebec and Honduras and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to our partners, the Société de coopération pour le développement international (SOCODEVI) and the Fédération québécoise des coopératives forestières (FQCF). The FQCF has set up a working committee to pursue its efforts to integrate the SDGs into its network. An article should be published shortly.



Caption: Participants from Honduran forestry cooperatives at the SDGs workshop. Photo credit: SOCODEVI

Similarly, we are collaborating with the SDGs and Co-operatives Project, led by the Centre of Excellence in Accounting and Reporting for Co-operatives (CEARC) and Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada, in particular to facilitate the participation of francophone co-operatives. At the same time, we are continuing our collaboration on The Conversion to Co-operatives Project (Co-op Convert) led by our co-operative colleagues at the University of Toronto.

Each for All: The Co-operative Connection Update



Vesta Sahatçiu

Producer, Each for All: The Co-operative Connection

Decades of research in the making, Dr. Marcelo Vieta's new book, *Workers' Self-Management in Argentina: Contesting Neo-Liberalism by Occupying Companies, Creating Cooperatives, and Recuperating Autogestión* is a remarkable work of academic and political reporting.

Grounded in class struggle Marxism, the book delves into Argentina's long tradition of working-class activism, the broader history of workers' responses to capitalist crisis, and the wave

of anti-systemic movements against neo-liberal capitalism that took hold throughout the country in the late 1990s and early 2000s. A key movement led to around **400** companies across most urban economic sectors being taken over and converted to co-operatives by almost **16,000 workers**.

Dr. Vieta delves into his writing for an interview with [Each For All: The Co-operative Connection](#), to be aired live on April 28, at 8 p.m. EST. You can listen live online on [Co-op Radio](#), or CFRO 100.5FM if you're in the Lower Mainland.

Upcoming Conferences / Calls for Papers

2020 ANSER-ARES Virtual Conference

The 2020 ANSER-ARES virtual conference call for proposals is being re-opened to invite you to submit a proposal for what we believe will be an engaging and provocative virtual conference **June 3-5, 2020**.

The [Association for Nonprofit and Social Economy Research \(ANSER\)](#) is a dynamic growing association that is organizing its thirteenth annual conference. ANSER-ARES brings together leading academic researchers, students, practitioners, consultants, policymakers and community organizations from Canada and across the world to discuss current and emergent issues, debates and challenges in the fields of civil society, social economy, and nonprofit research and practice.

Submission and Decision of Proposals

Submission link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/virtualanseraresconference>

The conference is an opportunity to welcome and explore the power of ideas to connect people and communities, encourage discussions and debates and to create knowledge and change. Within this context, nonprofits and other social economy organizations are well poised to lead these discussions. We invite you to submit proposals for individual research papers, panels of research

papers, or roundtable discussions that fit into any of the following areas, broadly defined:

- Nonprofits and Volunteer Organizations
- Social Economy
- Management and Leadership Education
- Co-operatives and Credit Unions
- Social Enterprises, Social Entrepreneurship, & Social Innovation
- Community Economic Development & Community Organizing
- Volunteering & Citizen Engagement
- Advocacy & Social Movements
- Collaborations, Partnerships & Mergers
- Communication, Networking & Digital Media
- Finance, Governance & Accountability
- Indigenous Perspectives in the Nonprofit Sector and Social Economy
- Leadership & Management
- Research Methodologies
- Community-University Engagement
- Public Policy, Government Relations & Contracting
- Theoretical Perspectives
- Knowledge Transfer & Mobilization
- Other

We also accept proposals of wider relevance, which may not fit the categories listed above. We welcome papers, panels and roundtables involving collaboration between academics and practitioners.

Proposal abstracts, in either official language, should be submitted by Survey Monkey link at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/virtualanseraresconference> by May 4, 2020.

If you have any problems, please send an email to anser.ares.conference@gmail.com.

Proposal Guidelines (also available at: <https://bit.ly/353Oknd>)

Proposal Submission Deadline: May 4, 2020

Three types of proposals will be considered: individual papers, panels, and roundtables, all of which are subject to peer review.

1) Paper Proposals

Paper proposals normally present research findings with some link to or reflection on theory, but they could also be “think pieces,” discussions of research-in-progress, including theses or dissertations, or reflections on practice. They could also be case studies, research results, or learning arising from work done by nonprofit workers, consultants, or other community practitioners. Each paper is provided 10-12 minutes for a presentation.

A paper proposal should include:

- 1) a title;
- 2) the ANSER conference theme being addressed;
- 3) a 100-word summary of the presentation for publication in the program if accepted;
- 4) a 250-word summary of the paper proposal with attention to the following elements:
 - Research question(s) the paper addresses
 - Research problem and purpose
 - Review of the relevant literature, citing key works
 - Research methodology
 - Research findings or preliminary findings, if appropriate

- Implications for theory and practice, if applicable

- 5) name, institutional affiliation and email address for each of the authors.

2) Panel Proposals

Panels are collections of three papers on a related theme. Ideally, these papers build upon each other, thereby adding to the coherence of the panel. Each individual will be expected to speak for no longer than 10-12 minutes. To allow adequate time for questions and discussion, the panel chair should ensure that presenters do not exceed the time limit.

A proposal for a panel should include:

- 1) a title;
- 2) the ANSER conference theme being addressed;
- 3) 250-word overview of the panel as a whole, including the coherence of the individual papers around this focus;
- 4) for each paper, a 100-word summary for publication in the program if accepted;
- 5) for each paper, a 250-word summary with attention to the following elements:
 - Research question(s) the paper addresses
 - Research problem and purpose
 - Review of the relevant literature, citing key works
 - Research methodology
 - Research findings or preliminary findings, if appropriate
 - Implications for theory and practice, if applicable
- 6) name, institutional affiliation and email address for each of the authors. Please indicate which author is the panel chair.

3) Roundtables

Roundtables are well suited to: the discussion of the implications of an issue for practice; the discussion of research needs or research in progress around

specific topics; or the presentation of contrasting perspectives on an issue with a designated facilitator. Roundtable presenters are not expected to provide written papers. It is expected that a roundtable will have 3 or more participants.

A proposal for a roundtable should include:

- 1) a title;
- 2) the ANSER conference theme being addressed;
- 3) a 100-word summary of the roundtable for publication in the program if accepted;
- 4) Insert a 250-word summary of the topic/question/problem the roundtable addresses, participant contributions, and relevance to research and/or practice in the areas of interest to ANSER/ARES and/or theme of the conference.
- 5) name, institutional affiliation and email address for each of the participants. Please indicate which participant is the roundtable chair.

For more information, please contact

Yvonne Harrison or Laurie Mook, ANSER-ARES
2020 Conference Co-Chairs,
anser.ares.conference@gmail.com.

ACE Institute 2020

For several weeks, the ACE Institute Planning Committee has been monitoring the situation with COVID-19. It's been important for us to respond and update everyone while the situation has been rapidly unfolding.

The ACE Planning Committee has decided to cancel our physical event, ACE Institute in Vancouver, BC, Canada from June 10-12 2020. ACE's mission has always been about gathering co-operators across the world in an effort to promote cooperation. Therefore, we have opted to have a Virtual Institute from June 15 to 24, 2020.

This event will consist of a series of webinars and will aim to deepen two current topics:

- 1) the challenges posed by the health crisis and economic development for co-operatives
- 2) the role of co-operatives in rebuilding the local, national, and global economies.

If you are interested in submitting a proposal for this event, please contact info@ace.coop
<<mailto:info@ace.coop>> .

Our physical ACE Institute in Vancouver, BC, Canada will be pushed to 2021. Once again, thank you for your continued support.

ICA CCR EUROPEAN RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2020

“Rethinking co-operatives: From local to global and from the past to the future”

8-10 July 2020, Athens Greece

The organisers of the ICA CCR European Research Conference 2020 in Athens announced that "**given the COVID-19 crisis, the ICA CCR European Research Conference for 2020 will not be held in a presencial format**". However, the local organizing committee with the European CCR Board is exploring other options, for which they will inform in the near future.

For more information, please contact the organisers at submissionsathens2020@gmail.com

Organizer and local partners

The ICA CCR European Research Conference 2020 will be held in Athens, from the 8th until the 10th of July at the Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences.

The conference is organized by the ICA CCR Europe Research Board and hosted with the support of five Universities, two National Research Centers and an educational cooperative, which bring together academics and researchers working on Co-operatives in Greece.

Main theme and suggested topics

The Blueprint for a Co-operative Decade of the ICA sets out a strategy plan with a number of ambitious goals to be achieved by 2020. The latter highlights -in many instances- the importance of safeguarding the cooperative identity, as well as encouraging the cooperation between cooperatives. Nevertheless, as we are approaching the end of the Co-operative Decade, how to maintain a common cooperative identity which is inclusive to both traditional and emerging cooperatives, while strengthening their network capacities in local, regional, and global level, still remains an open question. To address the aforementioned challenges, new strategic visions for cooperatives need to be explored and debated.

For this reason, following the main theme of the Berlin Conference in 2019 on cooperatives and the transformation of business and societies, the 2020 ICA CCR European Research Conference chose as its main theme: ***“Rethinking cooperatives: From local to global and from the past to the future”*** and invites scholars, practitioners and policy makers to reflect critically upon the evolution of the cooperative model over the years, the challenges

that it has successfully addressed and those that remain unanswered, as well as the need to both evolve and adapt to new conditions, while maintaining a common cooperative identity.



Cooperatives for Climate Action: International Day of Cooperatives 2020 Theme Unveiled

The theme of the International Day of Cooperatives 2020 is **COOPERATIVES FOR CLIMATE ACTION**.

We are inviting the global cooperative community to continue pushing for actions that will address climate change. This critical situation is putting lives and livelihoods at risk, disrupting vital ecosystems for people and the planet.

“Our common home is in danger. There are methods of production and consumption that are constantly attacking the environment. We don’t have much time to reverse this situation.

We must act now, with our values and principles, to demonstrate on a global scale that it is possible to develop an economy with social inclusion and protection of natural resources,” said Ariel Guarco, President of the International Cooperative Alliance.

On 4 July 2020, join us as we raise awareness on the importance of addressing climate change. No country is immune from it, greenhouse gas emissions are more than 50 percent higher than it was in 1990, and global warming is causing long-lasting changes to our climate system which threatens irreversible consequences if we do not act.

Cooperatives worldwide can take this opportunity to show leadership and share their cooperative values in combating this global issue. **A Cooperator’s Communications Guide** will soon be available to help cooperatives use this day to illustrate the importance of taking action to battle climate change.

As we did last year, together with [DotCoop](#) We are launching the **2020 International Cooperative Day interactive map** to illustrate how cooperatives worldwide are taking action to battle climate change, and celebrating their successes. Get more information [here](#) on how to participate.

Last year we registered more than 130 events in around 40 countries worldwide. We also encourage you to promote **#CoopsDay** and **#Coops4ClimateAction** widely on all your social media channels.

Why this theme?

The 2020 International Cooperatives Day theme was chosen to support Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 13 on Climate Action. This event will focus on the contribution of cooperatives to

combating climate change, one of the most severe challenges facing our planet during the 21st century.

Climate change severely impacts people’s livelihoods around the world, especially the most disadvantaged groups such as small-scale farmers, women, youth, indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities, who have to cope with extreme natural disasters and degradation of natural resources.

The cooperative movement can use this important opportunity to take a stand as a global actor of change and collaborate with its partners within the international community. This collective effort can significantly impact the climate agenda and achieve a fair, green and just transition for all communities, leaving no one behind.

About the International Day of Cooperatives

The United Nations International Day of Cooperatives is celebrated annually on the first Saturday of July. The aim of this celebration is to increase awareness on cooperatives, highlight the complementary goals and objectives of the United Nations and the international cooperative movement, underscore the contributions of the movement to the resolution of the major problems addressed by the United Nations, and strengthen and extend partnerships between the international cooperative movement and other actors.

In 1992, following a concerted lobbying effort by the cooperative members of the ICA and [Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives \(COPAC\)](#) members, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the first Saturday of July 1995 to be International Day of Cooperatives, marking the centenary of the

establishment of the Alliance, by resolution [47/90 of 16 December 1992](#). Since 1995, the ICA and the United Nations have been setting the theme for the celebration of the International Day through COPAC, a multi-stakeholder partnership of global public and private institutions, the ICA being a founding member, that champions and supports people-centred and self-sustaining cooperative enterprises as leaders in sustainable development.



[Read more](#)

Researching the Third Sector: Approaches, Methods, and Applications Open Call for a Special Issue to VOLUNTAS

Guest Editors:

Mirae Kim, PhD.
Assistant Professor
Department of Public Management and Policy
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies
Georgia State University, USA

Paloma Raggo, PhD.
Assistant Professor
Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership
School of Public Policy and Administration
Carleton University, Canada

Please send **abstracts** between 300 to 400 words no later than **May 1, 2020** to voluntas.method@gmail.com.

Full paper submissions for initial review by guest editors will be due **October 15, 2020**.

The methodological toolbox of researchers investigating the third sector is diverse in terms of epistemologies, approaches, academic traditions, fundamental assumptions, methods, and practice. However, our conversations and debates often focus on the results of our studies, not the research processes behind the findings. There is an increasing demand for greater transparency in research processes and decisions from peer reviewers, editors, funding agencies, institutional review boards, students, organizations we partner with, and other stakeholders involved in the research endeavor.

With this increased demand for greater research accountability, scholars have been asked to justify their methodologies in the research they publish. Yet, there are very few methodological articles published about the process of researching the third sector, its challenges, and implications despite the centrality of methodology for published and peer reviewed research.

In this themed issue, interested contributors are invited to think about the methods, research processes, and challenges specific to the study of the third sector.

The ideal final contribution would be between 4000 to 5000 words including citations. It would narrow down to one particular research issue, theme, method, or approach. Please refer to the detailed calls for guidelines.

Contributions should reflect the broad diversity of research in our field. Scholars studying a broad range of organizations, people, and critical issues are invited to contribute.

Some of the research focus could include (but is not limited to): grassroots organizations, governance research, leadership, fundraising, volunteerism, activism, nonprofit organizations, civil society organizations, international nongovernmental organizations, foundations, philanthropists, volunteerism, and the social economy.

Contributions can include but are not limited to the following methodological themes:

Access to data
Archival research
Big data analysis
Case study research
Coding (qualitative and/or quantitative)
Content analysis
Data standards
Defining the unit of analysis
Ethical research
Ethnographic research
Experiments (Natural, Lab, Quasi, Survey)
Feminist Research
Images and visual data
Interpretive approaches
Interviewing
Levels of analysis issues
Machine learning
Measurement issues/challenges
Mixed-method research designs
Participatory research
Qualitative data software
Qualitative interviewing
Quantitative analysis/large datasets
Social Media data analysis
Surveys
Textual analysis (manual and automated)
Transparency in research

Feel free to contact voluntas.method@gmail.com if you have any questions regarding a potential contribution to this themed issue.

Abstract submission guidelines:

Include email and corresponding address (not included in word count)
Title of the paper
300-400 word abstract (not including citations)
Abstract should clearly address the three essential aspects as discussed above.

Please submit in a word document and include your last name in the document's name
(example: Lastname_methodspiece.docx)
Include in the subject of your email: Voluntas
Method themed issue

Timeline:

May 1, 2020: Submission of abstracts to themed issue guest editor
June 1, 2020: Selected authors receive an invite to submit a full manuscript
October 15, 2020: Submission of 4000-5000-word documents (including citations) to themed issue guest editors.
January 5, 2020: Papers reviewed by themed issue guest editors and returned to authors with feedback.
March 1, 2021: Authors revise their papers for blind peer review and submit directly to VOLUNTAS.

Come to Halifax (Canada) for the Social Enterprise World Forum (SEWF):

September 21-21, 2020 – Academic Symposium (in collaboration with the SEWF main conference)
September 23-25, 2020 – Main SEWF Conference (www.sewf2020.org)

The Academic Symposium theme is **Better Together: Collaborative approaches to advancing SDGs through social enterprise** (<https://cleconference.wixsite.com/sewf2020academic>). We invite you to submit a proposal to present or attend as a participant.

In collaboration with various partners, the Centre for Leadership Excellence is hosting the pre-event academic symposium to be held at Saint Mary's University, on September 21-22, 2020 prior to the Social Enterprise World Forum 2020. These two days will bring together leaders from across the social enterprise sector to explore the theme: Better Together: Collaborative approaches to advancing SDGs through social enterprise.

The Social Enterprise World Forum 2020 offers a unique platform for social enterprise leaders from across the globe to come together, build relationships, share promising practices and scheme virtuously on how to create a more sustainable future. Building on the success of the inaugural SEWF Academic Symposium in Glasgow, UK in 2018, we invite paper and panel proposals on the following topics:

Stream 1: Advancing social enterprise research -

Empirical, theoretical and methodological papers focused on developing and applying scientific knowledge of social enterprise. This stream will favour abstract proposals focused on the following areas: SDGs, public policy, cooperatives, Indigenous social enterprise, social impact assessment, growth and scale, governance, and human resources.

Stream 2: Advancing social enterprise teaching -
Developments, approaches or pedagogical

challenges, opportunities and best practices in teaching social enterprise. This stream will favour explorations of collaborative teaching, use of networks in teaching, and work-integrated and service-based learning

Stream 3: Advancing social enterprise engagement

- Reflections on lessons learned from universities and social enterprises working together in partnership, whether locally or internationally. This stream will favour explorations of working across traditional boundaries in social enterprise with an emphasis on projects and practices in which academia has supported the advancement of the sector.

Submissions from emerging scholars at undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate are strongly encouraged and will be showcased in an Emerging Leaders poster session at the event.

We are also proud to partner with the Social Enterprise Journal for a special issue related to the conference theme. Stay tuned for further updates.

Submission Guidelines: Please send your 400-word abstract or panel proposal to michael.kennedy@acadiau.ca stating 'Call for Papers' and the stream for which you wish to be considered in the subject heading. Please send one email per submission. The deadline for submissions is **June 15, 2020** and you will be notified of the outcome by July 15th, 2020.

If you have any general queries relating to any scientific aspect of the symposium, please do not hesitate to contact the event Chairs, Dr. Chantal Hervieux (chantal.hervieux@smu.ca); Associate Professor, Saint Mary's University, Canada,

Michael Kennedy (michael.kennedy@acadiau.ca); Lecturer, Acadia University, or Dr. Catherine Pearl (cpearl@mtroyal.ca); Assistant Professor, Mount Royal University, Canada.

On behalf of our partners, Saint Mary's University, the Sobey School of Business, SMU Entrepreneurship Centre, the International Centre for Co-operative Management, and Acadia University, we look forward to welcoming you to Halifax, Nova Scotia in September 2020!

International Journal of Co-operative Accounting and Management (IJCAM) – Special Edition: Higher Education and Collaboration with the Co-operative Community

The theme for this special issue arose from discussions among members of the Board of Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC) concerning the need to generate awareness among co-operators, academics, students and the general public about the interesting forms of co-operation that take place between the co-operative sector and institutions of higher education and the importance of such initiatives. While collaboration between the sector and institutions of higher education goes back to the nineteenth century and has existed in countries around the world, the nature of such collaboration is not widely known. This special issue seeks to highlight some of the ongoing initiatives in Canadian universities that relate to research, education and even support for the incubation of new businesses. Volume 3, No. 1 includes the following excellent papers:

Cape Breton University: Building on the CED Legacy of Fr. Greg MacLeod - *Harvey Johnstone*

Learning to Manage the Co-operative Difference: Saint Mary's Co-operative Management Education - *Tom Webb*

The University of Sherbrooke: IRECUS' History of Collaboration with the Cooperative Sector - *Claude-André Guillotte, Anne-Marie Merrien, Josée Charbonneau, Jocelyne Champagne Racine*

The University of Winnipeg: The Business Chair in Co-operative Enterprises - *Simon Berge, Darryl Reed*

University of Saskatchewan: The Centre for the Study of Co-operatives - *Merle Massie*

<https://www.smu.ca/academics/sobey/ijcam.html>

IJCAM - Call for Papers on Social and Environmental Performance of Co-operatives

We are pleased to announce another special edition of IJCAM which is focused on Social, Environmental and SDG Performance and Reporting in Co-operatives. Papers related to management topics should be submitted by July 31, 2020 to Peter Davis (pd8@leicester.ac.uk) and those focusing on accounting and reporting should be submitted to Daphne Rixon (daphne.rixon@smu.ca).



International Journal of Co-operative Accounting and Management (IJCAM)

Call for Papers – Summer 2020

Special Issue – Social, Environmental and SDG Performance and Reporting in Co-operatives

The business world is seeing a great change in how impact is regarded and measured, and thus how organizations, businesses, different orders of government etc. are evaluated. There is an increasing interest in measuring and evaluating co-operative performance beyond the purely economic to include social and environmental indicators of impact. There is an expansion of what is labelled as impact and how impact is measured to include a vast array of methodologies and frameworks such as corporate social responsibility, sustainability reporting, corporate accountability, environmental and governance reporting, and many others. The take-up of these methodologies and frameworks within the private, public and social economy sectors is increasing.

After decades of work with United Nations, 193 countries, including Canada, adopted *The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* in 2015. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, prosperity, and peace and justice.

The development of the SDGs brings a new global framework by which countries, businesses including co-operatives, and communities are figuring out how to measure and report on their impact regarding the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Co-operatives are not immune to the new impact assessment ideologies that are emerging and the changes in reporting and measuring that go hand and hand with them. In fact, the co-operative sector should/could be a leader in expanded impact measurement because of co-operatives' inherent social (and increasingly environmental) nature.

Given the rise, interest, and implementation of these multiple new frameworks, this Special Issue is seeking papers on any aspect of management, measurement and reporting related to social, environmental and SDG performance of co-operatives.

Please submit your papers to Daphne Rixon (daphne.rixon@smu.ca) or Peter Davis (pd8@leicester.ac.uk) by July 31, 2020.

For further information on IJCAM and submission guidelines, please refer to our website: <https://www.smu.ca/academics/sobey/ijcam.html>





CALL FOR PAPERS

15th ICA ASIA-PACIFIC CCR RESEARCH CONFERENCE

*“Confronting climate change
through cooperative enterprise”*

25-27 November 2020, Trivandrum, India

Organizer and local partners

The ICA Asia-Pacific CCR Research Conference 2020 will be held in Trivandrum, India from the 25-27 November 2020 at the Agricultural Cooperative Staff Training Institute (ACSTI). The conference is organized by the ICA Asia and Pacific Committee on Cooperative Research (CCR) with the support of ACSTI, Government of Kerala and the ICA-EU Partnership on Cooperatives in Development, in order to bring together academics and researchers working on cooperatives in the Asia-Pacific region.

Main theme and topics

“Cooperatives have long fostered inclusive and sustainable approaches to economic and social development at the local level.

It is in keeping with this focus that co-operatives are expanding their development efforts creatively, into areas such as environmental sustainability and carbon neutrality, as communities around the world are struggling to adapt to climate change and strengthen their resilience against its impacts”

Secretary General Ban Ki Moon

*Message on the International Day of Cooperatives
5 July 2008*



There is an urgent need to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change, including the migration and displacement of peoples. As per the analysis of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) member survey carried out in 2018, ICA members expressed concerns about environmental issues. In facing threats raised by environmental issues such as climate change and drought, members would like to pursue strategic dialogue with other actors in the field of environmental, social and sustainable development.

Ranging from small-scale to multi-million dollar businesses, cooperatives employ around 100 million women and men in both industrialized and developing countries, and have more than 800 million individual members across the globe. 'Concern for community' is the 7th Cooperative Principle which guides the work of cooperatives around the world.



For this reason, the 15th ICA-AP CCR Research Conference is based on the theme: “**Confronting climate change through cooperative enterprise**” and invites scholars, practitioners and policy makers to reflect critically upon the significant contribution that cooperatives can make to mitigating climate change.

The Conference would highlight not only how cooperatives help reduce carbon emissions, but also promote sustainable development in general.

Based on the above perspective, the conference aims to address a wide range of topics of the cooperative movement’s development through time and location from different scientific fields and traditions, including – among others:

1. Climate smart interventions
2. Strengthening resilience of communities
3. Partnerships in addressing effects of climate change
4. Sustainable production and consumption to reduce the impact of climate change
5. Statistics: classification, national and regional statistics, world cooperative monitor
6. Linkages: Coordination between cooperatives and Government, local bodies and other agencies working on climate change
7. Corporate social responsibility, creating shared value, stakeholder engagement etc.
8. Role of cooperatives in restoring normalcy, community involvement, community cooperatives and tribal cooperatives etc.
9. Policy and legal frameworks, public private partnership etc.
10. Governing commons through cooperatives: resources, irrigation, fisheries etc.
11. New areas: Healthcare, elderly care, childcare, energy platforms etc.

The thematic topics are NOT exclusive and shall be re-defined based on the received submissions.

Abstracts

Researchers interested to present their papers in the conference need to submit an abstract of not more than 600 words that should broadly include the research question, methodology, likely contribution to the field of knowledge and relevant literature. The abstracts should be submitted in the following format:

- Title of paper
- Name(s) and affiliations of Authors
- Main theme/ objective of the paper
- Methodological and/or Conceptual approach
- Bibliography, Keywords and Contact details for corresponding author(s).

Poster proposals may also be sent, especially by young researchers, postgraduate and doctoral students. All abstracts should reach Mr. Mohit Dave, Secretary, ICA Asia and Pacific CCR at **research@icaap.coop** on or before **1st July, 2020**.

Young Scholars and Early Career Researchers’ Workshop

On the first day of the conference a dedicated workshop will be organized for young scholars and early career researchers in order to cultivate and enhance an interdisciplinary collaboration. The workshop will be an opportunity for these scholars to present their research in a friendly environment and be provided constructive feedback and support from senior academics researchers in the field.

The organisers will provide a select number of scholarships to cover the cost of travel and accommodation, on merit-cum-need basis.

Important dates

1 st July 2020	Deadline for abstracts' submissions
1 st August 2020	Notification to authors with presentation guidelines
15 th October 2020	Deadline to register for the conference
10 th November 2020	Deadline to send full papers and presentations
25-27 th November 2020	15 th ICA Asia-Pacific CCR Research Conference

Young Researcher Award

The ICA-AP CCR will bestow two meritorious papers with Dr. Mauritz Bonow Young Researcher Award (US\$ 500 and US\$ 300) to researchers not over 35 years of age, presenting their papers in the conference.



World Cooperative Congress Postponed

It is with regret that due to the COVID-19 pandemic we have to postpone the 33rd World Cooperative Congress. This important event will still be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea and is now scheduled to take place between the **1st and 3rd of March 2021**. The preparatory events, namely the **ICA Cooperative Research Conference** and the **International Cooperative Law Forum**, will take place between the 26th and 28th of February.* With the COVID-19 pandemic, the 33rd World Cooperative Congress will be an opportunity to look back and validate the cooperative movement's resilience, leadership and solidarity during times of crisis. This event will now serve as an important forum to:

- Discuss why the cooperative identity, including definition, principles and values, is needed now more than ever;
- Show cooperative resilience by sharing experiences and testimonies; and
- Discuss how cooperatives can significantly contribute to the global economic, social and environmental reconstruction.

As originally defined, the theme of the Congress will still be ‘**Deepening our Cooperative Identity.**’ Looking beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, we look forward to deepening our understanding of how our cooperative identity has enabled us to tackle this crisis and how we will overcome other global challenges like climate change, sustainable development, peace and equality. Together, we can cooperate to create a better, fairer and more inclusive world for generations to come.

For more information, please visit our website, or send an email to ica@ica.coop.

Sincerely,

Bruno Roelants
Director General

**The dates for these events are subject to be further rescheduled should the pandemic make it necessary for force majeure.*

Contact us



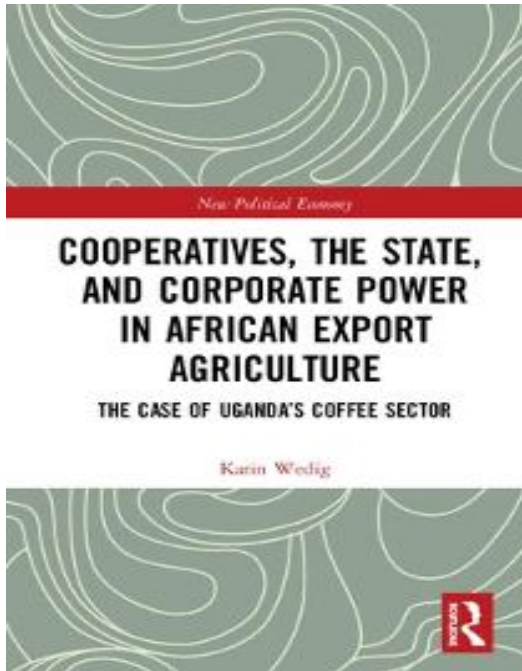
www.ica.coop

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Our mailing address is:
ica@ica.coop



Worth Reading This Spring



Agriculture is a major contributor to Africa's GDP, the region's biggest source of employment and its largest food producer. However, agricultural productivity remains low and buyer-driven global value chains offer few opportunities for small producers to upgrade into higher value-added activities. In recent years, the revival of Africa's cooperatives has been celebrated by governments and international donors as a pathway towards inclusive agricultural development, and this book explores the strengths but also the issues which surround these cooperatives.

The book scrutinizes the neoliberal ideal of economic prosperity arising through the operation of liberalized labor markets by illuminating the discriminatory nature of Uganda's informal labor relations. It points to the role of cooperatives as a potential instrument of progressive change in African export agriculture, where large numbers of

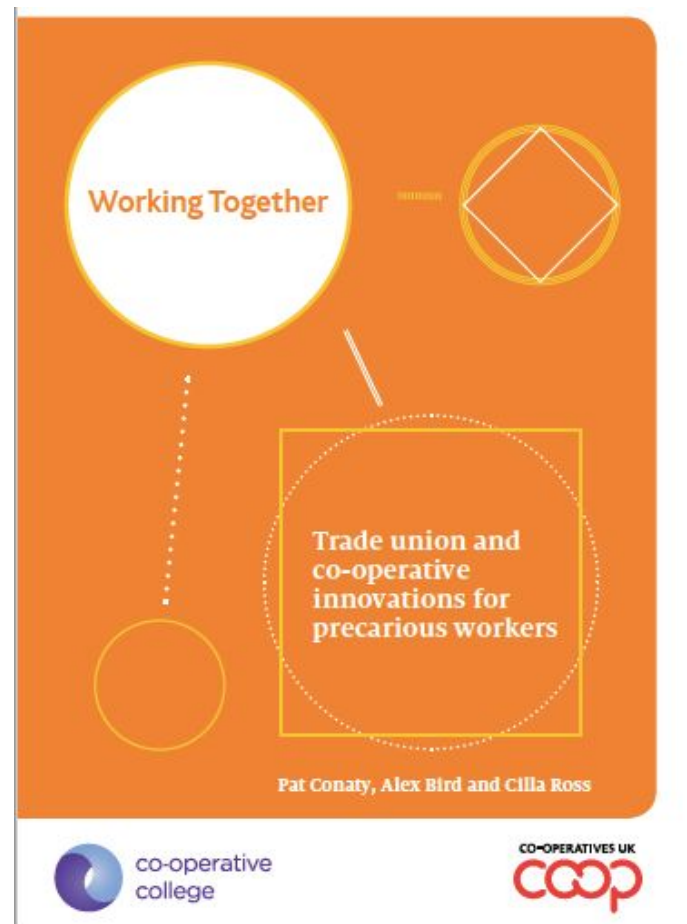
small producers depend on casual wage work in addition to farming. In contrast to the portrayal, advanced by some governments and rarely questioned by donors, of an unproblematic co-existence of small producers' collective action and big capital interests, the author calls for a re-politicized debate on the Social and Solidarity Economy. As part of this, she highlights the adverse political and economic conditions faced by African cooperatives, including intense international competition in agricultural processing, inadequate access to infrastructure and services, and at times antagonistic state-cooperative relations.

Supported by wide-ranging interdisciplinary evidence, including new ethnographic, survey and interview data, this book shows how cooperatives may be co-opted by both the state and corporations in a discourse that ignores structural inequalities in value chains and emphasizes poverty reduction over economic and political empowerment. It provides a critique of New Institutional Economics as a framework for understanding how institutions shape redistribution, and develops a political economy approach to explore the conditions for structural change in African export agriculture.



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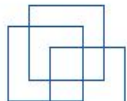
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INTERACTIONS BETWEEN WORKERS' ORGANIZATIONS AND WORKERS IN THE INFORMAL ECONOMY:

A Compendium of Practice



Membership Form



MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership rates for the 2020/21 CASC year are regular members \$175 and students, retired individuals, and the underwaged \$55. Benefits include the following:

- CASC /ACÉC Newsletter twice yearly
- Regular CASC / ACÉC Digest announcements of interest (about conferences, new co-operative resources or initiatives, scholarships etc.) through the CASC / ACÉC listserv and Digest
- Journal of Co-operative Studies (3 issues per year)

Contact Information (Please let us know if your contact information changes during the year)

Name: _____

Institutional Affiliation (if applicable): _____

Address: _____
_____ (postalcode) _____ (country)

Email: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Membership Type

Select one of the following:

_____ Regular (\$175)

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Optional donation

_____ In support of Ian MacPherson Fund

_____ In support of student/practitioner travel to CASC annual conference

Total:

Payment Information

Pay online with PayPal at <http://www.coopresearch.coop/how-to-join/>

Or mail the completed membership form, along with a cheque or money order made out to CASC in CDN or US dollars (at par) to:

Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation
c/o Canadian Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
University of Saskatchewan
101 Diefenbaker Place

Saskatoon, SK S7N5B8 Contact us at casc.acec@usask.ca if you have any questions.





Formulaire de membre

Les frais d'adhésion à l'ACÉC en 2020-2021 sont de 55 \$ pour les étudiantes, les personnes retraitées, et les personnes sous-payées; 175 \$ pour les autres personnes. Au nombre des avantages, les membres reçoivent :

- Une copie de notre journal interne (deux numéros par an)
- Des nouvelles récentes (congrès, nouveaux outils et initiatives de coopération, bourses, etc.) par courriel ou digest
- *Journal of Co-operative Studies* (trois numéros par an)

Coordonnées (*Veillez nous informer de tout changement au cours de l'année*)

Nom _____

Affiliation à un établissement (s'il y a lieu) _____

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Cochez le choix approprié :

☐ Régulier (175 \$)

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Don en option

-----Bourse Ian MacPherson

_____ Subventions pour les voyages étudiants ou praticiens aux conférences annuelles ACÉC

Le Total :

Paiement (Si vous avez des questions, n'hésitez pas à communiquer avec nous à casc.acec@usask.ca)

Utilisez PayPal à <http://www.coopresearch.coop/how-to-join/>

Ou veuillez poster le formulaire dûment rempli, accompagné d'un chèque ou d'un mandat-poste à l'ordre de l'ACÉC en dollars canadiens ou américains (au pair) à l'adresse suivante :

Association canadienne pour les études sur la coopération
a/s Canadian Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
University of Saskatchewan
101 Diefenbaker Place
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5B8



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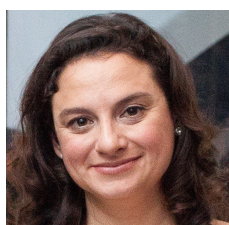
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