Invitation to collaborate

In 1930, Dean Herbert Hawkes of Columbia College said, ‘there is no such thing as a standardised dean’.

The role of a dean in the 21st century is increasingly challenging, multifaceted and complex - the context ever-changing and the learning environment more diverse and demanding than ever.

As a dean or senior leader of a forward thinking and outward facing learning institution, you work with increasingly competing internal and external priorities. Not least the paradoxes and possibilities associated with developing a global perspective and implementing responsibility in leadership and practice.

Alongside this you must manage the ever demanding cycle of transformational change required by learning and education fit for the 21st century.

The Globally Responsible Leadership Initiative, an EFMD, AACSB International and UN Global Compact strategic partnership inclusive of the PRME, is committed to facilitating innovative, pioneering and action oriented co-learning opportunities for senior leaders in the fields of management, higher education and organisational learning.

We have a depth of experience in academia, human relations and working with complex change projects, and bring a tested Whole Person approach to:

- the development of unique, self identified and initiated actions which have sustainable and scalable impact,
- the raising of questions for which there are no easy answers, and
- the development of long-term collaborative connections which build resilience, hope and support for sustained change in individuals, organizations, and management education and its global eco-system.

Inspired by the 50+20 vision of “Management Education for the World”, and other transformative aiming initiatives, we invite you to join a collaboratory of deans and directors acting as catalysts of change.

The first meeting of this pioneering action-oriented learning and innovation opportunity took place in October 2017 at Guelph University in Canada with follow-on events at Kedge Business School in Marseille, France (May 2018), Grossman School of Business in Vermont, USA (March 2019), and Católica Porto Business School in Porto, Portugal (November 2019).

View some of the insights and inspirations recorded at previous meetings at www.grli.org/deanscohort.
Development process and outcomes

Designed to support and stimulate those who are at the top, the deans and directors cohort will weave interactions across existing and new global networks of deans and senior leaders engaged in and committed to transformative, sustainable change in themselves and in the world they occupy.

By taking part in this collaboratory, you will be co-crafting the development of a growing community of globally responsible practice and a network of like-minded and like-hearted individuals open to learning and sharing their wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise.

As a participant-driven cohort, you will identify, based on collective energy and interest, which emergent issues and topics to emphasise during work sessions and virtual meetings – all in pursuit of fulfilling the role as catalysts of change in a peer-based academic setting.

Active engagement and commitment will enable you to

- collaborate with other committed change agents in a facilitated global process of co-learning and co-creation,
- develop a deeper understanding of the vision of management education for the world,
- define and initiate a transformative change outcome or program for your organization,
- identify and share tools and methodologies to facilitate further exploration and implementation of global responsibility within your own organization,
- share the cohort’s collective learning across leading networks and on global platforms as a bold call to action for educators and the industry worldwide,
- be recognized as leaders taking charge of and acting on issues of key importance for the future of management education,
- and impact the development of higher / management education globally.

You will be part of a diverse group representing a mix of geographies, specializations, and well-established institutions from the developed world as well as fast-rising and ambitious players in developing economies.

If you have an interest in joining this community of pioneering leaders, and bring more of your whole self to bear on burning issues and questions of mutual concern to deans and senior leaders, then please declare your expectations, initial intentions and interests online.

Submit your proposal at
www.grli.org/deanscohort

Timeline and investment

The fifth meeting of the Deans & Directors Cohort is co-hosted by Leeds School of Business - University of Colorado and Babson College from 28 April-1 May 2020 in Denver, Colorado.

During the Denver meeting the Cohort will:

- Build and strengthen the foundational relationships and trust necessary in a space where Deans and Directors work with peers on difficult issues, find inspiration and refresh for the work ahead;
- Diversify the experience and skills in the room by involving new participants including representation from beyond Business Schools;
- Understand the unique contributions you bring to the cohort and to the Cohort’s collective learning;
- Progressing actions and initiatives related to the inquiry themes already identified by the Cohort e.g.:
  - Collective actions for systemic impact
  - Inter-organisational partnerships and shared repositories
  - Empowering students as agents of change
- Explore what is required to sustain and scale the impact of the Cohort;
- Agree on next steps.

A guiding principle for all work is to be as efficient and effective as possible regarding communication and formats of meeting, working together and acting collaboratively and collectively.

A detailed agenda will be shared ahead of the meeting and will draw on the work of the previous meetings as well as proposals from confirmed new participants.

A fee of € 1,750 per organization covers participation (including meals and material excluding accommodation) by the Dean or Executive Director for the 3-day meeting.

Deans are encouraged to involve learning partners if possible. An additional fee of € 550 per learning partner (e.g. Associate Dean, Centre Director, Advisory Board member) is payable.

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