

Newsletter – Autumn 2018

Report from the Chair

As I write this, teaching has just started in most universities. As a consequence, a range of accounting, accountability, governance and management issues comes even more to the fore in our minds and in our institutions. The ability to deal with increasing student numbers, the pressures towards grade inflation, monitoring the performance of teaching (often used as an important input regarding probation decisions) and the encouragement (or compulsion) to recruit (and manage) overseas students who command premium fees, are mere examples of a system that increasingly appears to embrace ideas relating to marketisation and the use of (highly dubious?) metrics. Such strains are also evident with the cranking up of REF2021 preparations. Decisions regarding the ranking of published research and impact case studies are fraught with problems, and the desire of some to replace 'judgement' with highly-debatable (or even spurious) 'quantification' is difficult to defend (and can have severe unanticipated and dysfunctional effects). Given that the vast majority of UK universities are constituted as charities, and benefit from having charitable status, these tendencies encourage significant 'mission drift'. Is this a good thing? Does it benefit society? Is this what universities should be doing? These are big questions that require evidence and careful thought as we seek to answer (or debate) them.



The situation in universities is but one example (of which there are many) of the importance of focusing on public service and charitable organisations as the subject of our research, a view I have highlighted previously. Theoretically-informed and rigorous empirical analysis (and critical thinking) can be used as a basis for judging proposed (and even previously implemented) initiatives. It can also help policy makers as they wrestle with the challenges facing public-service organisations. Moreover, such research can be used to counter what appears to be an inexorable push towards inappropriate 'managerialism', 'marketisation' and 'quantification' that, frequently, undermines the contribution that such organisations can make to society.

Continues overleaf...

New newsletter section

Please send any content you would like to feature in future editions of this newsletter (recent publications, calls for papers etc.) to the editor: David Yates at d.yates@aston.ac.uk

Looking back at, and looking forward to, some activities relating to the SIG's focus

Annual BAFA conference

The annual BAFA conference (and doctoral masterclasses) was held in **Central Hall Westminster, London** (9th-11th April 2018). An extensive, interesting and eclectic range of public service and charity papers was presented in a number of dedicated sessions, and the debate and discussion was lively. Going forward, the 2019 conference (and doctoral masterclasses) will take place at the **University of Birmingham, England (8th -10th April 2019)**. **The deadline for online submissions of papers is the 5th December 2018** (see: <http://bafa.ac.uk/events/upcoming-events/bafa-annual-conference-with-doctoral-masterclasses-2019.html>). I am hoping we will see a good turnout of public services and charities SIG members there.

SIG-sponsored events

The SIG provided sponsorship for a conference *Accounting for the Public Sector at a Time of Crisis* held at the Centre for Not-for-profit and Public Sector Research, Queen's University Belfast (17th - 18th January 2018). It was attended by approximately 55 academics from a range of counties, many of whom were BAFA members. A themed issue of *Abacus* containing a selection of papers initially delivered at this conference will be published in 2019. A previous 2017 SIG-sponsored conference at Queen's University resulted in the publication of a themed issue of the *British Accounting Review* in 2018 (themed edition on 'Public Services and Charities: Accounting, Accountability and Governance at a Time of Change', Vol. 50, No. 2, 2018) [which contains a range of public service and charity papers that may be particularly useful to SIG members as they progress their own research agendas.](#)

The SIG will again be sponsoring the **New Public Sector Seminar 2018 (8th-9th November, 2018)** at the University of Edinburgh Business School. The theme will be *Calculative Practice and the Shaping of Public Services*. Co-chairs are Irvine Lapsley (University of Edinburgh), Ileana Steccolini (Newcastle University London) and Peter Miller (London School of Economics). This very useful research gathering has always been an enjoyable and profitable few days. Further details: <https://www.business-school.ed.ac.uk/ipsar/wp-content/uploads/sites/50/2017/11/NPS-2018-CALL-FOR-PAPERS.pdf>

**Noel Hyndman,
Chair of the BAA Public Services and Charities SIG,
Queen's University Belfast,
September 2018**



ANNUAL CONFERENCE WITH DOCTORAL MASTERCLASSES 2019

Monday 8 - Wednesday 10 April 2019
University of Birmingham, England

The British Accounting and Finance Association is pleased to announce the 2019 Annual Conference in Birmingham.

Speakers include:

- Professor S.P. Kothari, Gordon Y Billard Professor of Accounting and Finance, Sloan School of Management, MIT, US.
- Professor Ian Tonks, Professor of Finance, School of Economics, Finance and Management, University of Bristol, UK.

Call for Papers for the Annual Conference

We invite submissions of full papers on any topic from academics, final-year PhD students, and practitioners in the disciplines of accounting and finance. The deadline for online submissions is 5 December 2018 and the submissions system will open on 3 September 2018. Please visit <http://www.bafa.ac.uk/events/upcoming-events/> for details.

Papers will be reviewed by subject specialists drawn from our special interest groups and associates. As we are increasing the number of different events at the conference this year, there will be some restrictions placed on the number of presentation slots available.



Important Dates:

Online paper submission opens for the main conference: 3 September 2018

Deadline for submissions to the main conference: 5 December 2018

Paper acceptance notifications by 3 January 2019

Registration and payment opens: 4 January 2019

Registration and payment for main conference presenters closes: 1 February 2019

Registration and payment for non-presenters closes: 22 March 2019

Deadline for online submission of revised papers: 1 March 2019

Detailed presentation programme announced: 11 March 2019

Online programme available: 3 April 2019

Registration and Fees

- Full Ticket: £320
- Discounted Ticket: £160 (You can check if you're eligible here: <http://bafa.ac.uk/conference-information/#rate>)

Keep up to date with conference news: visit

<http://www.bafa.ac.uk/events/upcoming-events/> and follow @BAFA_UK on Twitter.





Building Public Trust and the Role of Effective Financial Reporting

This key conference will help finance practitioners understand the important financial management issues and reporting changes that face local authorities and the crucial steps necessary to make and be prepared for those changes.

The essential updates, insight and material provided at this conference will be especially relevant in a period of uncertainty and sustained resource constraint.

Early Bird prices available until 19 October 2018 - see full details below.

ATE

14 November 2018

Starts: 09:30

Ends: 16:30

LOCATION

BNY Manchester Piccadilly

One Piccadilly Gardens

Manchester

M1 1RN

STANDARD PRICE

£245.00 EXCL VAT

NETWORK MEMBER PRICE

£195.00 EXCL VAT

<https://www.cipfa.org/training/l/local-government-accounting-conference-20181114>



ACCA

International Public Sector Conference 2019

You are invited to **submit relevant papers** to ACCA's 9th International Public Sector Conference. This is ACCA's flagship event for the public sector, featuring leading public sector speakers at the top of their profession and bringing together hundreds of public sector finance professionals from across the globe.

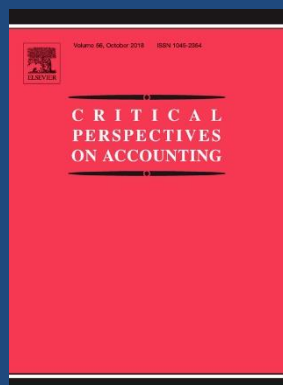
The conference is organised in partnership with the Czech Chamber of Auditors and will take place at the **Marriott Hotel in Prague, Czech Republic on 28 February to 1 March, 2019**. Confirmed speakers for this year's conference already include: the Auditor Generals of Pakistan, Tanzania and Jamaica; the Head of CPA Afghanistan; the Director of Transparency International EU; the Vice-President of CPA Canada; and Helen Brand, the CEO of ACCA.

ACCA has a global reach of 208,000 members and over 500,000 students in 179 countries—creating an excellent platform for disseminating leading work in this field. Your submission would be assessed by an expert panel of public sector specialists for its inclusion in a pamphlet published alongside the conference.

The deadline to submit papers is **30 November 2018 (11:59pm GMT)**.

[Download the call for papers](#) for full details.

You can also [visit the conference web page at Acca](#) for registration information and the conference programme.



Critical Perspectives in Accounting

Special Issue and Workshop

Special Issue Call for Papers

Theme: Critical Perspectives on NGO Governance and Accountability

Preparatory workshop

A workshop sponsored by the Centre for Research into Accounting and Finance in Context (CRAFiC) will be held at the University of Sheffield on 1 May 2019, in partnership with University of Birmingham and Aston University. Those wishing to present at the workshop should contact Aneur Belal (a.r.belal@sheffield.ac.uk) by 31 January 2019 together with a one-page outline of the paper including theory, method and key findings. Authors of selected papers from the workshop will be invited to submit revised papers for this special issue, subject to the normal review processes of the journal. Early expression of interest is encouraged. Further workshop details here: <http://management.sheffield.ac.uk/events/50348766516/>

This is linked to a special issue in Critical Perspectives on Accounting – see <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/critical-perspectives-on-accounting/call-for-papers/critical-perspectives-onngo-governance-and-accountability> for more information.



Diversity in the spotlight: Where are diversity and inequalities in voluntary sector debates and research?

First seminar: “Highlighting perspectives on race, culture and migrants in research and community settings”

**22nd November 2018
Birmingham**

As UK society becomes increasingly diverse and more globally connected, this creates new and distinctive challenges in how the voluntary sector – its research, policies and practices – respond to different needs and better represent the wider population. Yet, despite recognition of the lack of research in this field which addresses difference and diversity, there has been little recent challenge to the status quo and a dominant discourse which neglects significant voices. This needs to change

This is the first of what we hope will be a series of seminars and/or discussions, in which some absences in the debate around issues concerning difference and diversity can be explored with the aim of challenging the current orthodoxy of research in the voluntary sector field.

Ticket Type	Price	Spaces
Non member	£70.00	N/A
VSSN member	£35.00	N/A
Concession (for those without institutional support)	£25.00	N/A

<https://www.vssn.org.uk/events/diversity-in-spotlight/>



Call for Papers

Philanthropy in the spotlight?

Resources, Reputation and Achievements

European Research Network On Philanthropy

9th International Conference, 4-5 July 2019

University of Basel, Switzerland

In recent years the public profile of philanthropy has increased. Across Europe (and beyond) philanthropic actors take the lead in addressing societal issues and the contribution of philanthropy is being (re)discovered by public actors. While philanthropy is not a new phenomenon, its heightened visibility has raised questions about the background and motives of philanthropic organizations and donors, the place of philanthropy within (European) welfare states, and the relationship of philanthropy to other actors that aim to solve societal issues and/or put issues on the societal agenda. An increase in visibility seems to call for more transparency and a better understanding of the achievements, impacts and limitations of philanthropy: we should look the philanthropic gift horse in the mouth.

Hosted by the Center for Philanthropy Studies (CEPS) at the University of Basel in Switzerland, the conference will gather scholars from various disciplines sharing a motivation to discuss the achievements of philanthropy in the present day, and to generate new questions about how philanthropy might develop in the future. Participants are especially encouraged to send in proposals addressing questions related to the financial and other sources of philanthropy related to the reputation of philanthropic organizations and projects and/or achievements of philanthropy. In doing so, the conference aims to initiate a lively debate about the multifaceted character of philanthropy in the past, present and future.

ERNOP welcomes papers addressing questions from a **micro- meso- and/or macro perspective** and from questions addressing the **background, contents and/or output of philanthropy**. Papers can be either **empirical** – using quantitative, qualitative, or mixed method approaches – or **theoretical**. Topics at the conference include (but are not limited to this alphabetical list):

- Altruism and generosity
- Bequests and intergenerational transfers
- Cross-country studies of philanthropy
- Corporate philanthropy and CSR
- Cross-sector collaboration with for profit organizations or governments
- Diaspora and community philanthropy
- Economics of philanthropy
- Efficacy, efficiency and performance evaluation
- European philanthropy (or philanthropies)
- Family philanthropy
- Fundraising strategies and practices
- Foundation roles and strategies
- Governance of foundations
- High net worth philanthropy
- Impact, outcomes and outputs of philanthropy
- Legal and fiscal issues in philanthropy
- Methodology for philanthropy research
- Morality and ethics of giving
- New frontiers and innovation in philanthropy
- Philanthropy and democracy
- Private and public foundations
- Social innovation, crowdfunding and philanthropy
- Strategies for philanthropy
- Theories of giving and volunteering
- Venture philanthropy, social investment and impact investment
- Volunteering, giving time



Target audience

ERNOP welcomes participation from researchers in all academic disciplines, as well as professionals from and working with the philanthropy sector – including nonprofit executives and staff, foundation staff, consultants, and policymakers.

Keynote speakers

Rob Reich: Rob Reich is professor of political science and, by courtesy, professor of philosophy and at the Graduate School of Education, at Stanford University. He is the director of the Center for Ethics in Society and faculty co-director of the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society (publisher of the Stanford Social Innovation Review), both at Stanford University. He is the author of the forthcoming book, *Just Giving: Why Philanthropy is Failing Democracy and How It Can Do Better* and the recent *Philanthropy in Democratic Societies* (edited with Chiara Cordelli and Lucy Bernholz). His current work focuses on ethics and technology, and he is editing a new volume called *Digital Technology and Democratic Theory* (with Lucy Bernholz and Helene Landemore). He is also a board member of GiveWell.org and the magazine Boston Review.

Pamala Wiepking: Pamala Wiepking is the Visiting Stead Family Chair in International Philanthropy and Visiting Associate Professor of Philanthropy at the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at IUPUI in Indianapolis. In 2017 she was recipient of the UMD SPP Do Good Institute-ARNOVA Award for Global Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership. With Femida Handy she co-edited the new standard reference work on global philanthropy, the *Palgrave Handbook of Global Philanthropy*, which won ARNOVA's 2016 Virginia Hodgkinson Research Book Prize. Dr. Wiepking is also one of the founding members of the European Research Network on Philanthropy (ERNOP). Dr. Wiepking's research focuses on cross-national and interdisciplinary explanations of philanthropy. She is a member of the editorial board for *NVSQ* and the *International Journal of Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Marketing*.

Requirements and procedure

For the ERNOP Conference 2019, submissions of a short abstract and the full working paper are required. Please submit your abstract at: www.ernop.eu/conference2019.

- Abstracts should be about 2500 characters long (spaces, punctuation and title included. Authors, affiliations and keywords not included).
- Abstracts do not have a set structure. However, an outline of the research questions, methods, data sources, and a brief description of the results is highly appreciated.

Submission deadlines:

Abstracts:	February 10, 2019
Notification of acceptance:	March 10, 2019
Full papers:	June 9, 2019

Practical issues and further information:

Date of the conference: July 4-5, 2019
 Venue: University of Basel, Switzerland
 PhD Students Rate: € 275 (early bird), € 325 (regular)
 Scholars and non-profit practitioners rate: € 325 (early bird), € 375 (regular)
 Other categories (public and commercial sector): € 375 (early bird), € 425 (regular)
 Early Bird Rate ends: March 17, 2019
 More information and registration: www.ernop.eu/conference2019.

The ERNOP team looks forward to receiving your submissions and welcoming you to Basel!



12TH EIASM WORKSHOP ON THE CHALLENGES OF MANAGING THE THIRD SECTOR

TRONDHEIM, NORWAY, JUNE 12-13, 2019

The Third Sector - broadly defined as the voluntary, charitable, co-operative, religious, health and educational organisations which sit outside the confines of the private ('profit') and public sectors - is facing a rapidly changing environment which challenges its efficient management and continuation. This research workshop seeks to examine current influences on the effective operation of these nonprofit organisations (NPOs). We are interested in high-quality research papers which address the managerial challenges facing this sector. The organisers are particularly interested in the results of managerial, economic and interdisciplinary approaches.

This workshop will be of interest not only to researchers active in this area, but also to policy-makers, senior managers and practitioners from all disciplines.

The purpose of the workshop 'The challenges of managing the third sector' is to present and discuss in a stimulating academic environment high-quality research papers exploring contemporary challenges in managing all kinds of nonprofit organisations (NPOs).

Topics of potential interest include, but are not limited to:

- Policy constraints on managing
- Building and maintaining legitimacy and trust
- Objectives, performance measurement and impact
- Financial constraints and fundraising
- Appropriate governance models
- The dangers of mission drift
- The role and managerial challenges of NPOs in transition countries
- Ethical issues versus commercialisation of NPOs and commodification of their services
- The partnership between NPOs and business firms: sponsoring, strategic alliances and cause-related marketing
- The partnership between NPOs and public organisations: joined-up planning and delivery in the transformation of public welfare
- Social entrepreneurship and the emergence of social enterprises
- Reason and consequences of the introduction of private sector managerial techniques
- Engaging, organising and managing people in NPOs
- The role of accounting and financial measures in NPOs
- Vision, strategy making and strategising
- Marketing management in NPOs
- Inter-disciplinary approaches to interpret the challenges of the sector
- Hybridity and atypical organisations such as social movements.

There are no particular paper requirements, but they should not be too long (preferably 8,000 words).

FEES: TBA

The fees include participation to the :

- workshop participation, 1 welcome reception, 2 lunches, the workshop dinner, morning and afternoon coffee breaks.

ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Cristina Setyar - EIASM Conference Manager

EIASM - PLACE DE BROUCKERE - 31 - 1000 BRUSSELS - BELGIUM

Tel: +32 2 226 66 69 - Fax: +32 2 512 19 29

Email: cristina.setyar@eiasm.be



Aston PhD Studentship: NGO Applied Management Research and Training Unit call for applications

Aston University is seeking to award a prestigious PhD studentship funded by Wesleyan Assurance Society and affiliated to the NGO Applied Management Research and Teaching Unit within Aston Business School.

In recent years, there has been growing interest in understanding the impact of corporate philanthropy on beneficiaries. It is widely recognised that philanthropists can be agents for change. Nevertheless, some literature suggests that philanthropic trusts and foundations in particular, have been slow to communicate the extent of such change, in particular, their 'social impact'. However, historical evidence of corporate socially responsible acts (and perhaps reporting) shows impact is not a completely new idea.

Measurement and reporting of social impact has largely focused on the funds provided and some measurement of a 'return' and a number of the measures developed and used by, for example, government (in social impact bonds for example) are controversial. Insights into better ways to measure and report social impact are frequently called for, in particular how these systems can support and encourage the charities and other organisations that are funded to achieve these social impacts.

This is an opportunity to contribute to the debate about trust and foundation funding and the impact of CSR strategy on beneficiary entities and beyond. It is likely to include both qualitative and quantitative analysis.

We call for applicants of a full-time funded student to work on the above issue, under the supervision of leading academics. We welcome applications from students with a relevant MSc (or equivalent) with strong, proven, quantitative and qualitative skills. Note that the successful applicant will have access to, and be expected to spend time in, the Wesleyan Assurance Society offices as well as on the Aston University campus. Informal enquiries about the research or studentship prior to application are welcome, and can be directed to Professor Carolyn Cordery (c.cordery@aston.ac.uk) and/or Dr Uwe Napiersky (u.napiersky@aston.ac.uk).

The Award/Financial Support:

The total value of the award is £69,000 paid over 3 years. This will cover the student's annual fees (full fee waiver - Home/EU fee rate) and a stipend to cover living costs. International students may cover the differences.

Selection Process

Selection will be based on the evaluation of a completed Online Application Form and a brief Research Proposal (2000 words max) submitted by candidates as well as two academic reference letters. Please see full details of requirements on the *Studentships* section of the following webpage : <http://www.aston.ac.uk/aston-business-school/programmes/research/phd/> Full details about the studentship and details of how to apply can be found [here](#).

How to Apply

Complete the [on-line application form](http://www.aston.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/) at <http://www.aston.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/>. Attach to the application your Research Proposal and, where relevant, a written sample of your previous research work (for example your Masters Dissertation or Project).

The Closing Date for Applications is 11 December 2018.

The start date of the PhD is 1 April 2019.

The Public Services and Charities Special Interest Group is gratefully supported by:

