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**Back to the Future**

Tor Vergata University, Rome, ITALY

## **TRACK 10: Back to the future in M&A studies: Time for rethinking and re-rooting?**

### **Track chair:**

*Dr. Arturo Capasso*

*Professor of Management*

University of Sannio (Italy)

Phone: +39 0824 305766

E-mail: [capasso@unisannio.it](mailto:capasso@unisannio.it)

### **Track coordinator:**

*Dr. Olimpia Meglio*

*Assistant Professor of Management*

University of Sannio (Italy)

Phone: +39 0824 305767

E-mail: [meglio@unisannio.it](mailto:meglio@unisannio.it)

### **Track co-chairs:**

*Dr. Susan Cartwright*

*Professor of Organizational Psychology and Well Being*

Director, Centre for Organizational Health and Well Being

School of Health and Medicine

Lancaster University

Phone: 01524 592430

Email: [s.cartwright@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:s.cartwright@lancaster.ac.uk)

*Dr. David Faulkner*

*Professor of Strategy*

School of Management, Royal Holloway, University of London

Phone: +44 01784 414198

e-mail: [David.Faulkner@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:David.Faulkner@rhul.ac.uk)

*Dr. Audrey Rouzies*

*Associate Professor*

IAE - University of Toulouse I (France)

Department of Strategy

Phone: +33 561 59 95 85  
Email: [audrey.rouzies@univ-tlse1.fr](mailto:audrey.rouzies@univ-tlse1.fr)

*Dr. Shlomo Yedidia Tarba*

*Lecturer*

Ben-Gurion University and College of Management, Rishon LeZion (Israel)

Phone: 972 54 7936947

E-mail: [tarba2004@gmail.com](mailto:tarba2004@gmail.com)

*Dr. Satu Teerikangas*

*Senior lecturer*

Helsinki University of Technology (Finland)

Phone: +358 50 384 1649

E-mail: [satu.teerikangas@tkk.fi](mailto:satu.teerikangas@tkk.fi)

**Abstract:**

Mergers and acquisitions (hereinafter M&As) are a prominent corporate growth strategy both in terms of the numbers and the value of transactions carried out yearly. Yet there is an increasing and widespread concern about their effectiveness as empirical research generally presents mixed and contradictory results. Despite the advances made, calls have been made for researchers to develop sounder theories and more robust research on M&As. This is the aim of this track. We aim to develop an ongoing, constructive and open dialogue amongst M&A researchers by organizing a yearly M&A track at EURAM. This track aims to answer this increasing need among M&A scholars and start developing an interdisciplinary analysis and understanding of the M&A phenomenon. This track tradition is part of a longer term goal of building a pan-European M&A community making a difference in the way that M&A are studied in the academic world. An M&A track has successfully been organized at EURAM since 2006. To resonate the aims of EURAM 2010, the theme of the 2010 M&A track is '*Back to the future in M&A studies—time for rethinking and re-rooting?*' We ask ourselves, what are the blind spots that we as scholars keep engaging into? Is it time for a rethink about mergers and acquisitions, what they are, what is their purpose, what are their risks, their corporate social responsibility perspective? Is it time to rethink what is the responsibility of M&A scholars vis-à-vis the societal and corporate players? Further, would a meeting in Rome in 2010 enable us to revert back to fundamentals that have been lost? What would these fundamentals be? With these aims in mind, we encourage the submission of:

- High-quality empirical, theoretical and methodological papers from around the world;
- Work-in-progress papers to be presented in interactive sessions;
- Papers from fields related or non-related to M&A, fields that have potential to offer M&A scholars novel ideas;