



SIG: INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT

TRACK 20: From Global to Worldly Leadership

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Abstract:

The purpose of this track is to consider an alternative way of framing the limited but popular idea of global leadership. We propose that thinking instead about *worldly leadership*, drawing on Mintzberg's (2004) 'worldly' mindset enables a new and important conceptualisation to emerge as a contribution to the field, and in turn advances our thinking about leadership development in the context of complex trans-national organization.

Mintzberg's idea of worldliness contrasts with a globalisation discourse which "sees the world from a distance that encourages homogenization of behaviour" (Mintzberg, 2004, p. 304) insofar as it engages at close proximity with the many different worlds within worlds that make up our globe and enrich our experience of it. Worldly leadership is not simply about observation. It is also about the ethical choices that we make and the way that we *act* within and across these world(s).

Most research into global leadership fails to address the development of worldly leadership, as imagined here, where questions of integrity, ethics, dispersed or shared leadership, networks, boundary-crossing, stewardship, sustainability and notions of the common good take centre stage

increasingly for global organisations in all sectors. Contributions to the track are invited on any aspect of worldly leadership but indicative topics would include:

- Conceptualising worldly leadership
- Critiques of global leadership
- Worldly leadership in practice (case studies, empirical research)
- Narratives and discourses of the global and worldly leader
- Gender and diversity dimensions of global/worldly leadership
- Worldly wise? Ethics and the worldly leader
- Sustainable leadership: Global or worldly?
- Non-western perspectives on leadership

We welcome innovative interpretations of the track theme and suggested topics. Contributions might take the form of papers, case studies or more imaginative events that address the issues outlined above.