Call for Applications

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS
WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2023
WELCOME TO THE 4TH EDITION OF THE SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND PHILANTHROPY (SEPHI) SEMINAR!

WE ARE EAGER TO RECEIVE YOUR APPLICATIONS

ORGANIZERS

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LOCATION:
emlyon business school
Paris campus
15 boulevard Diderot
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DATE:
Thursday 25 and Friday 26
May 2023

CO-ORGANIZED BY

AUDIENCE:
open to doctoral and postdoctoral researchers
Ignasi Martí is a Professor at the Department of Society, Politics and Sustainability and the Director of the Social Innovation Institute. He has been a Visiting Professor at ESADE since 2016 and before Professor and Head of the Strategy and Organisation Department at Emlyon Business School in France, where he also directed the OCE Research Center.

He earned his PhD in Management at IESE Business School and his Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches (HDR) at the Université Paris-Dauphine. Before, he graduated from the University of Barcelona (UB) with a degree in Philosophy and in Economics, he was also a visiting scholar at Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford.

Prof. Martí’s research findings have been published in top international journals such as the Academy of Management Journal, Organization Studies, Journal of Business Venturing, Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice, Journal of Business Ethics and Journal of Management Inquiry.

Dr. Elisabeth S. Clemens is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Chicago as well as a former Master of the Social Sciences Collegiate Division. Her research explores the role of social movements and organizational innovation in political change.

Private initiatives are frequently called upon to tackle social and environmental problems that established government and market actors struggle to solve on a global scale (Ferraro et al., 2015; Marti, 2018). This seminar brings together junior scholars studying initiatives that have received attention from both researchers and practitioners: philanthropy¹ and social entrepreneurship². We invite participation from scholars of these two topics, broadly conceived.

In the social and management sciences, philanthropy and social entrepreneurship were once met with a mix of enthusiasm, skepticism, and confusion. Both terms are “essentially contested concepts” (Gautier, 2019). However, over the last decade, both philanthropy and social entrepreneurship have become increasingly researched, and a growing number of articles have been published in leading academic journals (e.g., Barbara-Tomás et al. 2019; Battilana et al., 2015; Cobb et al., 2016; Cuypers et al., 2015; Dutta 2019; Lee et al., 2020; Wry & Zhao, 2018. Meanwhile, scholars have questioned the private provision of public goods as a potential source of corruption, cooption, and lack of accountability (Lechterman 2021; Powell and Bromley, 2020; Powell and Clemens 1998; Spicer Kay, and Ganz 2019).

While much progress has been made regarding research on the motivations, processes, and outcomes of philanthropy and social entrepreneurship, knowledge remains scarce on several key dimensions. We are thus particularly interested in research on the consequences - including negative and ambivalent ones - of private forms of organizing for the social good. In addition, the interaction between philanthropy and social entrepreneurship, between “funding” and “operating” for the common good has received little scholarly attention so far, notwithstanding recent interest in impact investing (Casasnovas & Ferraro, 2022; Hehenberger et al., 2019).

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Through this seminar, we encourage discussion between scholars interested in research on issues located at the crossroads of both phenomena, including:

• Social impact and its assessment, such as the impact of social enterprises on their beneficiaries, and of philanthropic funding on recipient organizations.

• The availability and relevance of different types of funding (e.g. grants, loans, equity, social impact bonds) for the specific needs of social enterprises at both early phases and growth/scaling phases.

• Collective impact and innovative alliances between philanthropic organizations and social enterprises, and the blurring of roles between “funders” and “operators.”

• Cross-sector or inter-organizational partnerships, multi-stakeholder initiatives involving philanthropic actors, social enterprises, and others.

• The connections and contributions of social entrepreneurship and philanthropy to building alternative economic models for transitioning towards a more sustainable society.

• The sharing economy and collaborative models, particularly how they affect traditional philanthropy (e.g., crowdfunding, tech for good) and social entrepreneurs (e.g., open-source and peer-to-peer organizations).

• New ownership and governance models: foundation-owned enterprises, crowd-equity in social enterprises, and other forms of “steward ownership”.

• The consequences of social entrepreneurship and philanthropic initiatives on the well-being of communities and societies, and factors that may undermine such well-being.

This list is not exhaustive, and we welcome work on other issues in, or at the intersection of, philanthropy and social entrepreneurship.

1. Philanthropy consists in “private giving for public purposes” (Salamon, 1992) and includes all types of voluntary aid from individuals and private organizations to good causes. Far from being limited to wealthy donors and charitable foundations, philanthropy encompasses innovative and diverse phenomena such as cause-related marketing, street fundraising, and crowdfunding (Logue and Grimes, 2019).

2. Social entrepreneurship entails “the innovative use of resource combinations to pursue opportunities aiming at the creation of organizations and/or practices that yield and sustain social benefits” (Mair & Noboa, 2006). To do so, social entrepreneurs develop innovative organizational models known as “social enterprises” that use market mechanisms to generate long-term social impact (Battilana & Lee, 2014; Defourny & Nyssens, 2010).
OBJECTIVES

This seminar aims to support junior scholars, i.e., doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers, who are doing research in the fields of social entrepreneurship and philanthropy – as well as at the crossroads of these fields.

The seminar is integrated within a range of activities and networks on social entrepreneurship and philanthropy in which the four sponsoring institutions frequently engage. It is also connected to international research networks such as EMES (social enterprise/entrepreneurship) and ERNOP (philanthropy).

The seminar will enable doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers to:

• Critically debate literatures in social entrepreneurship and philanthropy and their theoretical underpinnings;
• Learn about developing and crafting research papers in this field;
• Strengthen ongoing research and locate it on the “map” of social entrepreneurship and philanthropy;
• Develop ties with emerging and senior scholars in a burgeoning research community.

TARGET AUDIENCE & APPLICATIONS

TARGET AUDIENCE
All doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers in social and management sciences interested in the theme are welcome. Having taken a graduate-level class related to social entrepreneurship or philanthropy is useful but not compulsory. Each doctoral student or postdoctoral researcher will have the opportunity to present a research project or a paper and receive feedback from the organizers, other participants, and guest speakers.

APPLICATIONS
Interested candidates should send a sample research paper or a 2-page extended abstract (excluding references) of their research and a current CV in attachment to an email motivating their participation. The application should be sent by February 1, 2023 to brandtner@em-lyon.com. We will accept as many applications as possible, up to 20 participants.

LOCATION
The seminar will take place face-to-face at the emlyon Paris campus, across the street from the Gare de Lyon (in downtown Paris). Depending on the sanitary situation, we will consider virtual participation, but our goal is to organize the seminar fully in-person.

COSTS
Participation fees and meals are covered by the hosting institutions, but please note that participants should cover their own travel and accommodation costs.

ECTS VALIDATION
For doctoral students interested in validating ECTS credits for the seminar, it is possible to receive a course certificate issued by HEC Liège, Liège University, provided that the course evaluation is positive. Students who wish to receive the ECTS validation should mention it in their email when applying for the seminar. They will then receive more information regarding the final evaluation, consisting of the submission of a full paper and the presentation of their research project.
REFERENCES & SUGGESTED READINGS


